

NEWS IN SUMMARY



Mr. Stephen Carleton: Second IRA killing this year.

UDR man is shot dead in Belfast

A part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was murdered by the IRA in Belfast yesterday shortly after going to work at a petrol station of which he had recently been appointed manager (our Belfast Correspondent writes).

Three killers drove to the filling station in a green Cavalier car. Two of them shot Mr. Stephen Carleton six times in the head and body, killing him instantly. Mr. Carleton, aged 25, of Burleigh Drive, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, was married with a young son.

The gunmen abandoned the Cavalier, which had been hijacked, in Hopefield Avenue and escaped in another car. The killing is the second by the IRA this year. A booby trap car bomb attack in Newcastle severely injured a UDR member and killed his friend.

Efforts to find a joint prospective Unionist candidate for the Belfast seat held by the late Mr. Robert Bradford are unlikely to come to fruition. Mr. Bradford, who was murdered by IRA terrorists last year, is known to have favoured unity between the two parties. His widow, Mrs. Norah Bradford, has invited Mr. James Molyneaux, the Official Unionist leader, and the Rev Ian Paisley, of the Democratic Unionists, to a meeting on Monday to consider the matter.

Dearer beer and cigarettes

Imperial Tobacco, Britain's biggest tobacco manufacturer, is raising its prices and a packet of 20 cigarettes will go up by 2p (Derek Harris writes). It blames higher costs for the rises, which will be effective from February 8.

Bear price rises, amounting to 4p on a pint at the bar for all draught beer except mild, are being put through Monday by Ind Coope, part of Allied Breweries, in East Anglia and the south of England.

Death grant rise delay attacked

Mr. George Foulkes, Labour MP for Ayrshire South, said yesterday that the delay in announcing a change in the death grant, which has stood at £30 since 1967, was prolonging the agony for many old people.

He said that clear and unequivocal promises were given in Parliament that a decision would be made before Christmas.

Swan & Edgar shuts today

Today is the last day of trading for the Swan & Edgar department store in Piccadilly Circus, one of the great Victorian landmarks of central London.

The fate of the building, which is listed, is still uncertain. Debenhams has refused to disclose the name of the new leaseholder.

TV dispute ends

Journalists at STV, the Glasgow-based commercial television company, have returned to work after assurances that a claim by editors earning £18,000 a year for increases of up to £5,000 will be examined in detail. News and sports programmes were blacked out.

"Drowned" Princess still works.

When someone stole a four year old Princess the owner thought he'd seen the last of it.

The car was found by divers eight months later - at the bottom of a flooded quarry.

Out of curiosity they fitted a new battery to see if the engine would turn over.

It started immediately.

Steel union bans all overtime from next month

By David Featon, Labour Reporter

The largest steel union last night ordered an overtime ban to start in a month's time. It claimed the action would force the British Steel Corporation to hire thousands of extra workers to maintain production.

A meeting of the executive of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation decided to impose the ban in protest at further job cuts planned by the corporation, and the management's refusal to make a national pay award this year.

The union has also been angered by BSC's decision not to introduce a reduced working week from this month.

BSC gave a warning last night that the overtime ban could jeopardise jobs and lead to plant closures. Mr Peter Brookman, the corporation's director of industrial relations, said that even partial support from the workforce could damage the "fragile recovery in the order position".

The union's leaders claim that large amounts of overtime are being worked in BSC plants as a result of the big redundancy programme, which has seen 93,000 jobs disappear over the last two years.

The corporation this year wants to shed a further 15,000 jobs out of the current 105,000 workforce. Mr William Sirs, ISTC general secretary, said last night: "Our priority is to make the introduction of the shorter week, and an agreement was signed by both the union and BSC."

BSC is hoping this year to halve last year's £65m losses and is aiming at least to break even next year.

BR invites unions to talks on rail strike

By Our Labour Reporter

British Rail last night invited its three unions to a meeting on Monday for fresh talks aimed at averting next week's threatened two-day train drivers' strike.

The meeting was called after the National Union of Railwaymen, which has accepted flexible rostering for most of its members, adopted a militant stance over BR's refusal to give a 3 per cent pay rise to 500 drivers.

That payment is being denied by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen because it has refused to accept the new rostering. The NUR drivers are party to the same negotiating agreement as Aslef members and are therefore also being treated separately from productivity negotiations.

Union leaders representing 54,000 Ford and Vauxhall workers yesterday agreed formally to accept the company's offer of a 7.4 per cent pay deal linked to a five-point efficiency programme. Sixteen of Ford's 24 plants had voted in favour of the offer, but 10,000 workers at Halewood, Merseyside, have been on strike for five days.

A flat-rate increase of £14.26 a week is being sought by the 100,000 administrative and clerical staff in the National Health Service from April 1 (Our Health Services Correspondent writes).

Sealink inquiry sought

By Robert Jones

Newhaven began a sit-in. Because the vessel is in the only suitable berth, sailings from Newhaven to Dieppe have stopped.

On Wednesday night, after more redundancies had been announced at Harwich, the office of the union decided on a strike against all Sealink ships.

There were no sailings yesterday to Ireland from Holyhead, Fishguard or Stranraer and no British Sealink services on cross-Channel routes. However, scheduled sailings by Sealink's French, Belgian and Dutch partners coped with the light traffic usual at this time of year.

The National Union of Seamen, which has given full support to the Seafarers' sit-in, has not yet decided whether to strike. Since the officers have stopped all British-owned Sealink ferries, there would be little point in the seamen joining the action at this stage.

Sealink services between Larne and Stranraer have been suspended indefinitely because of the strike.

PARENTS BACK TEACHER

Mr Wayne Williams, the teacher suspended from duty at Llanidloes High School, in mid-Wales after the granting of a High Court injunction, was defended yesterday by his parent, Mr John Griffiths, whose wife is secretary of the parent-teacher association.

He said: "The whole affair is a scandal and a clear case of injustice and intolerance." He said his wife and other parents supported his views. Parents feel aggravated at the way children's education is being disrupted.

Mr Williams, a former chairman of the Welsh Language Society, was sent to prison last year for conspiring to damage broadcasting equipment. He was freed two days before Christmas after being told by Powys County Council that he could have his job back.

But parents were granted the injunction earlier this week. He has been suspended from duty until the High Court heard the parents' objections to his teaching their children.



Up for grabs: Cup-and-saucer china, and time to make a choice, at Harrods yesterday.

Bargain hunters but no bustle at Harrods

Yesterday's bad weather helped

rather than hindered what is traditionally the fastest and most furious retailing in Britain. On the first day of Harrods' sale (Robin Young writes). The Knightsbridge store is usually besieged by thousands of impatient bargain hunters who begin to gather in the early morning. In yesterday's heavy snow each entrance had mustered a porch-full of people by 9am, when the management counted down the final seconds to opening time by loudspeaker.

The phalanx of security men, usually required to save the relentless surge of shoppers from trampling one another to death at the foot of the escalators, this time held them back just long enough to fill the foyer for photographers. The rush of customers up the escalators

was much less impressive than the earlier invasion by the 6,000 sales staff required to cope with them. In the sale of china on the third floor dinner service hunters were able to race along the counters gathering plates by the armful without breaking thousands of pounds of crockery in ill-tempered collision with com-

petitors.

The first arrivals in the television

and radio department even had the luxury of a few moments' thought

before deciding which shop-soiled model with remote control and Tele-

text they would buy for £495, with £200 off. A regular customer in the 18-plus fitting rooms for larger women's dresses said she had never had three assistants and a fitting room to herself at the sale before.

"On the other hand, I spent three times as much as I intended as a

result." In men's wear the queues, which usually make the gangways impassable, were quite short, but the cashiers were never idle. "Things are going much more swiftly and smoothly than usual," one supervisor commented.

"We have actually got time for once to watch out that no one is slipping off in an armchair for new cashmere overcoat. Takings seem to be well on target."

In women's swimwear the fitting room curtains had been removed for security. But the usual messes, which might have caused some unintended exposure, was missing. At 10.15 there were just three customers in the department, and decoration was preserved. The store aimed to take more than £5m, by closing time, and indications were that despite the worst the weather could do the target was likely to be achieved.

Now, in a series of high speed films and electron micrographs, the two researchers have shown that the beetle effects its stream of hydroquinones onto the protrusion. The liquid curves around it (according to the Coanda effect) and leaves at an angle determined by the precise position of the gland relative to the protrusion.

One can get a similar effect with a spoon under a running tap, where a small movement of the spoon will cause a large deviation in the issuing spray. (Wear a waterproof coat when demonstrating this!)

The beetle is thus another example of the amazing flexibility of the living substance, which it has assumed in the evolution of arthropods, in which it has assumed the most fantastic shapes for all kinds of purposes. Perhaps only the heads and feathers of birds have been similarly plastic; by contrast the bone of the vertebrates has proved relatively static.

Source: *Science* vol 215 p83 (1982).

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Insurers and councils count cost

By Staff Reporter

Insurance companies will have to pay out many millions when the floods from Yorkshire's River Ouse, in December, 1979, in South Wales, cost £200m. The final toll will be the final toll will be the British Insurance Association said.

But claims after the floods in January 1979, totalled £15m, in the Mendips, £10m in South Wales, cost £50m. Floods are considered to be

floodwater has largely receded in York but Selby is on the alert as an exceptionally high tide is due on Monday and Tuesday and will flood up the river Ouse, though it is not expected to affect York.

Most of York's historic buildings have been unaffected but the basement of the Merchant Adventurers Hall was flooded.

Road clearance bills mount.

County councils in the area which have encountered severe flooding scenes followed by flooding before Christmas, are concerned that more may be made for emergencies on the roads caused by extreme winter will not last the winter.

Derby County Council has spent the £1m allocation it had put aside and spent an additional £100,000 on emergency clearance because of the latest blizzard.

More than 720 highway workers were called out over-night to help keep roads open near Plymouth, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and Tavistock, were cut off at one stage.

Devon has more than 5,500 miles of highways to maintain, more than any authority in England, and had to concentrate on the 1,500 miles of main roads.

In Cornwall the county council has spent £240,000 of its winter allocation of £400,000 while in Somerset, the county council has spent almost all of its £200,000 allocation on keeping its roads open this winter.

Last night farmers reported snowdrifts 10ft high between Bodmin Moor, Exmoor and Dartmoor, where conditions were still bad in spite of the thaw, the snow which did not bring with it the blizzard struck might have been killed.

Manchester normally budgets to spend £1.5m on the salting and gritting of roads. The Greater Manchester Council spent £2.5m in the last severe winter of 1978-79 and officials estimated yesterday that that figure would be exceeded.

In Cheshire, 36,000 tons of salt, half of the county's stock, had been used up before Christmas. The county had spent £200,000 more than its normal budget for winter contingencies before Christmas. "We are stretched to the limit," a county council spokesman said.

Lancashire County Council allocates £1.5m for winter road maintenance and a spokesman said that "severe inroads" had been made into the budget.

1,000 queue for jobs

More than 1,000 people queued for hours in the ice and snow in Liverpool hoping for one of 150 jobs at the city's Grosvenor hotel, which is reopening after being devastated by fire.

CORRECTION

The photographic caption on page 3 on January 6 showed Mr Leslie Groot, not Grant.

The photographs of a highly magnified four-mite and snowflake on the back page of *The Times* on January 6 were taken from *The Insect World*, by Peter Ponsonby, published by Secker & Warburg at £12.50.

Overseas selling prices

Austria 25, Bahrain 50, Canada 50, Egypt 40, France 40, Germany 40, Greece 40, India 40, Israel 40, Jordan 40, Kuwait 40, Libya 40, Morocco 40, Pakistan 40, Saudi Arabia 40, Turkey 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

Denmark 40, France 40, Germany 40, Greece 40, India 40, Israel 40, Jordan 40, Kuwait 40, Libya 40, Morocco 40, Pakistan 40, Saudi Arabia 40, Turkey 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

Iceland 40, Italy 40, Japan 40, Lebanon 40, Libya 40, Morocco 40, Pakistan 40, Saudi Arabia 40, Turkey 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

Netherlands 40, Norway 40, Portugal 40, Spain 40, Sweden 40, Switzerland 40, Turkey 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

Singapore 40, South Africa 40, Spain 40, Sweden 40, Switzerland 40, Turkey 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

South Korea 40, Switzerland 40, Turkey 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

Thailand 40, Turkey 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

Venezuela 40, United Arab Emirates 40, United Kingdom 40, US 40.

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Man cleared of Toxteth riot charges

By Ronald Faux

A man who said he was bullied by the police into making a false confession was cleared yesterday at Liverpool Crown Court of seven charges connected with the riots in Toxteth last July. He had been held in custody for six months.

Mr Christopher O'Donoghue, aged 23, unemployed, of Cookson Street, Liverpool, pleaded not guilty to the charges, although he had made a statement to police admitting he took part in street violence.

Mr Jack Price, QC, for the defence, said on the third day of the trial, which lasted a week: "Mr O'Donoghue had no injuries when he was arrested but the next day, when he appeared in court, he had a black eye, the left side of his face was swollen and he had bruises on his leg and thigh".

Mr O'Donoghue said after the hearing: "I have spent six months in custody for offences that I did not commit. I think something should be done about that. I will be talking to my solicitor to see what steps we can take."

The charges that Mr O'Donoghue was found innocent of included arson, possessing offensive weapons and making an affray.

More Rampton nurses accused

Three more nurses from Rampton Hospital, Nottinghamshire, have been charged with illtreating patients after a police inquiry which began nearly three years ago. The nurses face 34 charges alleging illtreatment of 11 patients, and are to appear in court at Mansfield on February 8.

A total of 14 Rampton nurses have now been charged with offences against patients. One has been convicted, four have been cleared and the rest are awaiting trial.

Museum gains in tax deal

Three tombstones have been allocated to the British Museum and 22 Hebrew manuscripts to libraries after their acceptance in lieu of tax at a cost to the National Land Fund of £331,597.

The manuscripts, dating from the thirteenth century, go to the British Library, the Brotherton Library, Leeds, the John Rylands University Library, Manchester, the Bodleian Library, Oxford, and the Cambridge University Library.

Telex facility to continue

Arrangements are being made to enable foreign journalists to continue to use telex facilities from Britain after the closure in March of the London Telex Office, which is losing £160,000 a year.

That was stated yesterday after a meeting between officials of British Telecom and representatives of the Foreign Press Association and the Commonwealth Press Union, which were concerned at the loss of the facility.

Radioactive load in lorry crash

A lorry carrying radioactive waste was involved in a collision yesterday outside the British Nuclear Fuels plant at Sellafield, Cumbria. But the Company said there was no contamination or risk to the public.

The driver and his companion were unhurt and continued their journey to the disposal site at Drigg, four miles away, where the waste is buried.

City plans medical help for homeless

Manchester Area Health Authority has applied for a £150,000 Government grant to set up a medical team to work with 2,000 homeless people, including tramps and down-and-outs, in the city, it was announced yesterday.

Man dies in fire

Mr David Felgate, aged 47, a farmworker, died yesterday in a fire at his home in Great Bircham, Norfolk. His mother, Mrs Edith Felgate, aged 80, was rescued from her bedroom by a postman.

Youth committed

Colin Jones, aged 17, a painter and decorator, of Millersdale Road, Mossley Hill, Liverpool, was committed yesterday by the city's magistrates to Liverpool Crown Court for sentence after he pleaded guilty to assaulting Police Constable Craig Thompson during an anti-police march last August.

Girl for Anna Ford

Miss Anna Ford, the former ITN newsreader, gave birth to a daughter late on Thursday night. Miss Ford, aged 37, married Mr Mark Boxer, the cartocast, last November. The baby weighed 7lb 14oz.

Service athletes banned from Russian games

By Ronald Faux

British Servicemen will not be allowed to take part in the world biathlon championships in Russia next month on the orders of the Government. The ban is a further reprisal against Russia for the invasion of Afghanistan and has been agreed after discussions between the Ministry of Defence and other Government departments.

The decision in effect cancels British participation in the premier event of this year's biathlon calendar, since all 10 members of the British senior and junior teams are soldiers or Marines.

The biathlon is one of the most demanding Olympic sports, combining cross-country running with marksmanship, and some of the best British hopes have been in training for five years.

The World Championships are due to take place in Minsk between February 9 and 14. The British team would have gone to Russia not as Servicemen but as civilians, sponsored by the British Ski Federation (BSF). An official of the BSF said yesterday that the Government's decision was ill-advised. The federation was still waiting to hear precisely why the Servicemen would not be allowed to go to Russia, but since other countries, including America and West Germany, would be sending a team, they saw no reason why Britain should be an exception.

Unlike the teams of other countries, the British biathlon team is made up entirely of Servicemen who have a talent for marksmanship and the time to devote eight months of the year to intensive training.

The BSF official pointed out that the federation was not being prevented from sending a team, but because of the ban it should not have a team to send.

"We are very sad that these individuals, who have been in training for a long

Police 'fear harassment allegations'

By Craig Seton

The trustees of the Penlee lifeboat disaster fund, which now stands at £2.2m, are to meet the families of the eight dead Mousehole lifeboaters to decide how to share the money.

The trustees met in Penzance yesterday for the first time since the Charity Commission and the Attorney General agreed that the fund should be treated as a private one to avoid any legal obstacles over its distribution.

The Government has said there will be no tax liability on some of the larger donations.

Mr John Moore, chief executive of Penwith District Council, said yesterday that the trustees would discuss with the defendants the options for allocating the money.

The council started the fund after the disaster on December 19, when the lifeboaters died trying to rescue eight people on board the coaster Union Star off Land's End. The tragedy left five widows and 12 fatherless children in the Cornish fishing village of Mousehole.

Between £400,000 and £500,000 collected by local fishermen has already been divided equally between the eight families. The trustees of the other fund are understood to have ruled out sharing the money equally and will take account of the different circumstances of the families.

A fund for the defendants of the Union Star crew has also been launched. Donations may be sent to MV Union Star crew dependants fund, c/o Barclays' Bank, Deptford Broadway, London SE8 4PB.

Dentists deplore rises in treatment charges

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

The rise in dental charges will make dentistry prohibitively expensive for the old and those on low incomes, the British Dental Association said yesterday.

Its general dental services committee passed a "punitive" increase in charges announced by the Chancellor on December 2.

It urged the Government to reconsider the revenue targets for dental charges for 1982-83 and restated "its profound opposition to further financial barriers being placed in the way of patients needing care."

The present maximum charge for routine dental treatment is £9, with a maximum charge of £60 for more complex treatment. From April 1 the charges will rise to £13 and £90 respectively.

When the Government took office in May, 1979, the maximum charges for dental treatment were £5 and £30 respectively. The present

proposals mean that dental charges will almost have trebled on three years.

The association is to meet Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, to urge him to abide by an assurance of Mr Patrick Jenkins, his predecessor, that charge would go up only in line with inflation and not in real terms.

Mr Ronald Allen, secretary of the association, said yesterday that with the increase in charges dental patients would be meeting about 30 per cent of the costs of the service, far higher proportion than at any time since the National Health Service was set up in 1948.

Charges had traditionally accounted for between 18 and 24 per cent of costs.

The increase might result in the reversal of a trend towards regular dental care, he added. Old age pensioners on supplementary benefit were entitled to free treatment, but other pensioners were not.

Mr Frank McAtee, for Summers, said an acquaintance of Summers who worked at the plant persuaded him to become involved. But Summers had made only a few thousand pounds and was merely the middle man.



Living in the past: Mrs Alice Rawson, aged 98, welcoming her regular visitor, Mrs Valerie Gilley, a district nurse, to the comfort of her 300-year-old cottage. Mrs Rawson lives with her daughter at the cottage, in Sandhurst, Gloucestershire, with neither tap water nor electricity. The two women use a coal-fired range for cooking and heating and get their water from a well outside. They have rejected repeated offers of an electricity supply and their only modern appliances are a battery-operated television set and a transistor radio.

SDP man may face fight against agent

From Our Correspondent

Guernsey to seek jobs safeguard

St Peter Port

Girl may get £2,000 rape compensation

By Marcel Berlins, Legal Correspondent

The rape victim whose attacker was not jailed this week, because she had been hitch-hiking, can expect to get at least £2,000 compensation from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

Judge Edward Sutcliffe, QC, jailing a man for nine months for indecent assault, said: "I have no doubt at all that it is my duty to mark the horror with which ordinary decent people regard this type of crime".

Graham Newham, aged 24, a decorator, of Sheen Lane, East Sheen, south west London, admitted that with

anyone injured as a result of crime, except where the injuries are very trivial, is entitled to claim under the scheme, set up in 1964. In the year ended March 31, 1981, more than £21m was paid to 25,000 applicants.

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Guernsey, like Jersey, has enabling legislation for introducing work permits, which will be retrospective from yesterday and would apply to the self-employed as well as employees. Nobody in work would need permits and those with residential qualifications would be exempt.

Guernsey's advisory and finance committee is recommending the proposals but with reservation. It wants assurance that the scheme will be reviewed if there are signs that it is damaging the island's economy.

Derbyshire's Labour and Welfare Authority is to put to the island's Parliament on January 27 proposals for legislation that would be retrospective from yesterday and would apply to the self-employed as well as employees. Nobody in work would need permits and those with residential qualifications would be exempt.

Derbyshire's Liberal chairman, Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow, East, speaking in Islington, said: "The danger is that the recession is becoming so entrenched and the rise in unemployment so irreversible that more than a mere £2,000m or £3,000m will be needed in the next Budget."

"Unfortunately the Government's own actions have made our recession much worse than elsewhere in Europe and we could end up with £6,000m to £8,000m of tax cuts and new spending in real terms to revive the economy and get demand moving upwards."

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Poland: A month of martial law

Free Solidarity denies it is now cooperating

By David Cross

Leaders of Solidarity, the suspended independent trade union movement in Poland, have described as fictitious claims by the martial law authorities that they are taking part in talks with the Government.

A statement received in the West from Solidarity leaders who are still at liberty in Poland said that the union authorities "have not empowered nor will they allow any of their members remaining at liberty to conduct such talks". The statement added that the Government was trying to confuse society in order to find a way out of the deadlock it had created for itself.

The Solidarity bulletin came in response to a claim by the authorities that talks had begun with the union's leaders and official government-approved trade unions at the Ministry of Trade Union Affairs. The participants were not named and other details of the talks were sketchy.

According to the latest diplomatic reports reaching the West from Warsaw, the martial law authorities had failed to persuade any well-known leaders of Solidarity to cooperate. The Roman Catholic Church is also resisting any close cooperation unless members of Solidarity are present and Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the suspended union refuses to negotiate unless his colleagues are allowed to take part.

Diplomats concede that active resistance to martial law has virtually ceased nearly month after it was imposed. The main concern of the authorities now must be passive resistance as they try to find a system to replace the way of political life which was crushed on December 13.

According to the official Polish news agency PAP, the country is strike-free for the

first time in 18 months. The agency quoted Mr Boguslaw Stachura, the Deputy Interior Minister, as telling a parliamentary committee that military rule, the arrest of thousands of union activists and the smashing of strikes had put the country on the road to recovery.

Half of the estimated 40,000 troops around Warsaw are reported to have been withdrawn. Warsaw radio has reported that public telephone communications will be restored in provincial capitals from tomorrow.

In a broadcast monitored in London, the radio said the resumption was because of the "further improvement of social discipline and observance of martial law regulations". Use of the communications media for activities contrary to the martial law rules was subject to penal law.

In cases when censorship establishes improper use of telephone communications, it may be necessary to cut off the line, the announcement said. It was not clear whether private telephones were included in the proposed resumption of service.

The partial restoration of telephone services and other relaxations such as the shortening of travel and allowing more travel around the country do not amount to much according to Western diplomats in Warsaw.

According to diplomatic sources in Warsaw, a group of clergymen from the authorities that were detained under the martial law regulations still number 5,000. Other reports from journalists in Warsaw suggest that internees at the Bialoleka jail in the capital are refusing food in a campaign to improve conditions.

Bonn argues for firm, united stand by Nato

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 8

West Germany will press for a united and strongly stated stand on the Polish situation when Nato foreign ministers meet in Brussels on Monday, sources said here today.

The West German aim will be to underline the political effect of United States sanctions against Poland and the Soviet Union and to send that they are not undercut by other countries, the sources said.

They emphasized the political effect because West Germany maintains—and believes that Washington agrees—that the sanctions have no practical effect.

COUNT OTTO GRAF LAMSDORFF, the West German Economics Minister, last night said there was "really little point" in them and repeated the argument of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, in Washington that the only solution that would directly and rapidly hurt the Soviet Union would be a United States grain embargo, which Washington was not prepared to impose.

West Germany, the sources said, would not lay before Nato any proposal of its own for tangible measures over Poland, but was prepared to discuss any suggestions by other countries.

It was also prepared to join in discussions later this month on the possibility of further limiting the exports of potentially strategic goods to the Soviet bloc.

It is clear that the West Germans regard the Western reaction as being largely irrelevant. After differences with Washington about the approach to the crisis and the bitter press attacks in the United States and France on their "softer" line, they are anxious that reaction should be unanimous and as sharp as possible.

Marchais not falling out with Jospin on Poland

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan 8

The Communists and Socialist parties have agreed to disagree on the Polish crisis, but Poland will not be allowed to undermine the unity of the left, or the cooperation of the two parties in government. This is the final outcome of the three-and-a-half-hour talks between delegations of the two parties, led by M Georges Marchais and M Lionel Jospin, their respective leaders, at the Communist Party headquarters in Paris this morning.

In the words of the final communiqué they confronted their standpoints on the situation in Poland, and noted in this respect differences and divergences.

The meeting was the first since June 23, when the two parties concluded an agreement which paved the way for Communist participation in the Government. It was originally to have taken place before the Polish crisis, at the request of the Communists, to discuss problems of the left. But its date was repeatedly postponed.

Although other subjects too, were taken up this morning, Poland—which has been the most severe test for the coalition between Socialists and Communists—inevitably dominated the discussions.

But it was clear that neither was prepared to contemplate the possibility of a breach over it, despite their sharply divergent reactions to the military takeover in Warsaw, and repeated calls by the Opposition

friends of the detainees have said that they are taking turns to go on three-day hunger strikes. They appear to be demanding improved sanitation and health care as well as the release of the old, the very young and the sick.

□ Britons unharmed: British officials have been allowed to travel from Warsaw to Gdańsk to check on the wellbeing of British subjects (the Press Association reports). They apparently found the Britons unharmed, despite the riots in Gdańsk in which two people died after martial law was imposed. The officials found the city quiet, but reported that only parts of the shipyard was back to normal.

□ Vienna: Five members of Solidarity were sentenced yesterday to prison terms ranging from three and a half to five and a half years for committing the work of the trade union under martial law, according to Warsaw radio (AP reports).

The sentences were handed down during a summary trial in Bielsko-Biala.

□ Melbourne: Australian dock workers will impose a week-long ban on handling ships from Poland from Monday to protest against the imposition of martial law (Reuters reports).

□ EEC attacked: The Polish news agency PAP yesterday dismissed as interference in Polish affairs a statement by the foreign minister in Brussels on Monday which condemned the EEC's support of martial law systems (APF reports).

In a statement carried by Warsaw radio, PAP said trade relations between sovereign states should be based on the Helsinki agreements. Any attempt to influence the internal affairs of any country went against those principles, it said.

Warsaw dissects a corrupt past

From Roger Boyes

Warsaw, Jan 8 (censored)

It has been a curious week in official Poland: a week of mine and circumstances charged events, snapshots of the past. Most of it seems to have taken place in court: Mr Marek Szczepanski, the former chairman of the State Television Commission, was on trial in the court for taking bribes while in a neighbouring room, alleged strike organizers were facing summary justice.

Meanwhile, in Shakespear's Mr Barnes' former Solidarity leader entered stage left, footloose from Canada.

The Szczepanski trial is being accorded most publicity, though officials insist that it is not a show trial. It is, however, a symbolic case, a way of putting the unacceptable facets of the Gierek era—the featherbedding of party bureaucrats, the back-ladders from foreign companies who wanted to capitalize on the import boom—in the dock.

The judges are still reading the charges: several million zloties are involved, misappropriation of state funds; foreign bribes; using state employees to build private villas and swimming pools; using public money to finance video shows and pay for mistresses. The trial promises to be both soap opera and a stern reminder to Poles that they are living in a new, austere—"Cromwellian" reality, as one Polish official recently put it.

While in one courtroom the trial was being dissected in excruciating detail, near by chamber in the Warsaw courthouse was investigating the present. Three members of the Huta Warszawa steel mill stand accused of organizing a strike at the plant in the first days after the introduction of martial law. They have pleaded not guilty and their defence lawyers have been arguing that the protest was a spontaneous action born out of the confusion in the first hours after December 13.

Thirty trials are being held and at the time of writing the verdict is still out. Many of the prosecution witnesses have spoken out for the defence and there is, in the courtroom, strong public support for the men, including from Mr Andrzej Wajda the film director, who directed *Man of Iron*, and several prominent actors.

Elsewhere in the courthouse, which just over a year ago saw the return of Mr Solidarnosc as an independent union, some men have been sentenced to two years for organizing a strike at the FSO-Flis car factory, while others have been cleared of the charges.

Small dramas then are being played out in this courthouse, both reassuring and warning the people. The uniform message is that the Government is against corruption and abuse of power but at the same time it is in accord with the agreement of June 13.

The accord stated that both sides hoped the Polish people will pursue the process of economic, social, and democratic renewal on which it has embarked.

M Laurent added: "We do not cultivate divergences on principle. We merely take note of them." And he emphasized that the main lesson of the meeting was the approval given by both parties to the action of the Government since it took office.

Thus the Communist ministers will have to continue to endorse the sharp condemnation by President Mitterrand of the Polish military coup, while the Communist Party will continue to argue in line with Moscow, that General Jaruzelski had no option but to take firm action.



Opening the door: Mrs Thatcher welcomes Señor Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo, the Spanish Prime Minister, to Downing Street yesterday for lunch.

French defend arms sale to Nicaragua

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, yesterday registered his strong objection to Nicaragua's decision to help leftist rebels in El Salvador.

Pentagon officials said the French move was "a slap in the face" for the United States. But President Mitterrand of France, a close ally of Washington in his attitude to the Soviet Union and European security, has repeatedly criticized United States policy in Central America.

Mr Mitterrand argues that American support for right-wing military regimes is likely to drive countries such as Nicaragua and El Salvador into the Soviet camp.

By selling military equipment to Nicaragua, official circles in Paris maintain, the Socialist Government has demonstrated that its support for revolutionary movements in Latin America is more than a matter of words and gestures.

Before leaving Paris, M Hernu said that the United States had agreed to sell arms to Nicaragua. The French minister said the French did not wish to become involved in the conflict of words and gestures.

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Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, wearing Air Force overall, was surrounded by heavily armed soldiers. Jet fighters circled the crowd which arrived in hundreds of lorries and lorries. The new leader, who has promised to wage holy war against corruption, inefficiency and mismanagement, said all of Africa was watching the revolution in Ghana.—Reuters

He told the rally today that

the revolution had to cut across the lines between the military, police and civilians.

The armed forces, which he has renamed the People's Army, Navy and Air Force, would defend Ghana and its people—not protect any dominant group.

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He gave no information about the fate of the 100 sailors and airmen who were captured by the French.

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Gripped again by the icy eighties

Those of us who are resisting the temptation to go out and buy snow boots and parkas on the grounds that we are not likely to experience a repetition of the present arctic conditions for many winters to come could be in for a nasty shock.

According to experts who have studied the behaviour of the British climate over the last few centuries, the eighties have always been the coldest decade and we would do well to prepare ourselves for another 10 years of freezing winters.

Although Meteorological Office records go back only to Victorian times, thermometer readings have been taken by interested amateurs since the middle of the seventeenth century when the fellows of the newly established Royal Society recognized the importance of keeping a register of the British Weather. Clergymen and country doctors seem to have been particularly assiduous in recording details of the changing seasons. Their findings, collated by the late Professor Gordon Manley, provide evidence of a remarkable cyclical pattern.

The coldest winter that Manley found evidence of was that of 1683-84. It was the occasion for one of the biggest and longest of the famous frost fairs which periodically took place on the frozen Thames in London. The fair, which lasted for nearly a month, was visited by Charles II, Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn, who reported that coaches were plying from Westminster to the Temple across the frozen river which was covered by booths and sideshows.

Among the attractions reported were "bull



Skating on the Serpentine by torchlight a century ago—from The Illustrated London News of January 29, 1881

baiting, horse and coach races, puppet plays and tippling, and lewd places, so as it seemed to be a bacchanalia on the water, while it was a severe judgment upon the land." There were to be further frost fairs in the eighteenth century but the increasing pollution of the Thames by chemicals and the diversion into underground pipes of feeder streams which had previously brought ice into the main river raised the temperature and the last total freeze in London was in 1813-14.

The first four winters of the 1780s were also abnormally cold. In December 1784 the clergyman-naturalist Gilbert White recorded a temperature of -1° Fahrenheit in his garden at Selborne, noting that the severe frost had killed his laurels, furze, holly and ivy and gravely injured his walnut tree.

The early years of the 1880s provided the next period of arctic weather with temperatures of -11°F being recorded in Scotland during December 1879. It was not until last month that such

low December temperatures were again recorded.

Professor Hubert Lamb, founder of the Climatic Research Unit at the University of East Anglia, who has made a special study of the British climate, can offer no explanation for this centennial cycle of cold winters. His own research has established a pattern of storms at sea and severe flooding accompanying the cold winters of the '80s of recent centuries. In that respect the conditions which we are at present experiencing strongly suggest that the 1980s are not going to escape the trend.

The cause of our present severe weather, according to Professor Lamb, is a change in the behaviour of the wind. Normally the prevailing winds in Britain are westerlies which bring mild damp weather from the Atlantic. However, these are now being pushed southwards, or "blocked" in meteorological parlance, by anti-cyclones coming from the Arctic.

As a result, the prevailing winds are northerly and

The Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall discusses the issues that led him this week to announce his resignation.



John Alderson: questions the police must ask themselves

Why I fell out with the police establishment

by John Alderson

cannot mean that either since some police authorities strongly disagree with the policies of their superiors in their areas. It cannot mean those who feel that police activity is disproportionately heavy upon their own group, religion or class.

At best it probably means that most people most of the time have no contact with the police, or they agree that if the police behave reasonably and fairly their actions are acceptable. They certainly expect serious crime and public disorder to be controlled, and rightly so, but undue concentration of the repressive powers of the police in enforcing regulatory offences often finds the public being policed by non-consent.

They will not consent to random breath tests for drunken drivers any more than young people nowadays will agree to random searches for cannabis. It is not surprising that conflict will ensue from these and other vague areas of police activity.

Most of the older professions such as law, education and medicine have been able to develop a substantial body of literature together with the confidence to debate their professional issues in public and with the public. In the police we have not yet reached that kind of professional maturity. It is still regarded as something akin to disloyalty to be seen to disagree in public on policy and philosophical matters.

During the recent debates on modes of policing, some chief constables showed considerable offence over my own efforts to help the debate by speaking and writing openly on critical issues. This is sadly regretted though it is not a good enough reason for silence. If the debate is stifled by internal pressures, the police stand still while all around it changes is likely ultimately to produce a succession of crises.

Knowledge is power, and because of neglect of the study of policing most knowledge is confined to the police themselves. This means that civil servants, ministers and local police authorities are heavily reliant on police leaders who in modern times have been seen to be more and more independent of the democratic process in the application of police resources. The decisions of chief constables to mount prosecution drives against offenders for which they might have a personal aversion can be a manifestation of this independent use of power.

That is not to say this is legally or constitutionally wrong but that it is offensive to the democratic ideal. In extreme forms it could lead to the abuse of power against minorities of many kinds.

The idea that the Anglo-Saxon system of policing is local, by consent, and is designed to "keep the peace" can be seen to be under severe strain. The creation of larger local government units has not only removed the seat of much of its power further away from the people but has weakened local police loyalties.

Police forces are now better described as national rather than local units. This may have enhanced critical aspects of technological and operational efficiency but at the heavy price of severance of local accountability and consultation. London, of course, save in the City, has never enjoyed local policing in the strict sense of the term.

When it is said that we are policed by consent what does that mean? It cannot mean that everybody, even the law abiding, agrees to the policing policies for their neighbourhood dictated by the head of a remote bureaucracy. Is it just hypocrisy or does it mean that the elected representatives consent to the chief constable's policies on their behalf? It

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The Astors lower the drawbridge at Hever



The news that Lord Astor of Hever and his family will leave Hever Castle this summer and allow it to be let to holidaymakers is a reflection of how life, even for the very rich, has changed in the last 75 years. Today, few people in Britain — Saudi princes included — would think of employing 800 people for two years digging an ornamental lake. That is what William Waldorf Astor, the present Lord Astor's grandfather, did shortly after buying Hever — Anne Boleyn's childhood home, near Edenbridge in Kent — in 1903.

The story of the Astor fortune is an American legend. The family originated in the village of Waldorf, near Heidelberg. Just after the American War of Independence, John Jacob Astor, the fifth son of a butcher, left to become an instrument maker in London, whence he set out for the New World and a career in fur trading.

Astor invested his profit from furs in farmland; but it happened that the land he bought was on the edge of New York. He began with a half share in a 70-acre estate costing \$70,000, which ran from what is now Broadway to the Hudson above 42nd Street.

Although William Waldorf Astor, John Jacob's great-grandson, who was created a Viscount in 1917, chose a Red Indian and a frontiersman as supporters to his coat-of-arms, he had previously shunned anything American. In 1893, he left the country with the words "America is not a fit place for a gentleman to live", and subsequently became a naturalized Briton.

For a former diplomat, William Waldorf was strangely tactless. His most famous gaffe was made at a concert he gave in his town house in Carlton House Terrace. A

naval captain, although not personally invited, came in a party with Lady Oxford. When Astor saw him, he asked him to leave, and the next morning — despite a written apology — inserted a paragraph in a paper he owned to say the man had been there without invitation.

Tiaras wagged in disapproval, and the Prince of Wales, in a tacit crushing judgment on the case, asked the captain to his box at the theatre the next night.

Although he later bought

The Observer and his son became chairman of *The Times*, Astor was dogged by

the first Baron Astor of Hever and his wife, outside their home in 1960. The present owner of the castle, who is to move out in the summer, succeeded to the title in 1971.

sleep at Carlton House Terrace, even after his own parties there, but went to the Astor Estate Office on the Embankment.

When he showed Lady Warwick round this sumptuous Gothic Revival building, he mysteriously revealed a lever: "If I were to press that," he said, "every door in the house would close, and you could not possibly get out without my permission." Then he smiled as he added, darkly: "You have nothing to be uneasy about, as you know, but I must take precautions."

Security was one vivid reason for buying a castle. Another was Astor's romantic love of the past, which he expressed in terrible writing. Novels about Renaissance Italy were peppered with idioms like "By the keys of St Peter you send me upon a thorny quest". As at Cliveden, the country house he bought in 1893, he built a tall wall round the park at Hever. It gave rise to the joke that Astor's real middle name was "Walled Off". The drawbridge at Hever was restored and pulled up at night.

As Astor himself wrote, he "wished to live in comfort in his medieval stronghold, having no desire to call up from the past the phantoms of the Plague, the Black Death, or the Sweating Sickness, and other deadly dwellers in the castle of the Middle Ages. When F. L. Pearson restored the castle,

he would not

bad publicity. He was even criticized for having entertained too lavishly as American minister at Rome, because it put the post "beyond the occupation of anyone without private means". This helps explain his obsession with secrecy.

In London, he would not

be parochial issues at stake"

Scot's gothic University to the river, gathering in on the way a few pockets of a more familiar Glasgow, the industrial fringes of Whiteinch and Scotstoun, where a vestige of once-great Clydeside heavy industry struggles to survive.

But Hillhead is a predominantly middle-class enclave where, according to ancient Glasgow tradition, the accent is so refined that sex is what the coal comes in.

In a city where the local authority provides nearly three-quarters of the housing, Hillhead claims almost 90 per cent owner-occupation, with one-third of the householders retired people. It has been given the Social Democrats' notice that the demographic profile is similar to that of Crosby, where Mrs Williams demolished a once unassimilated Tory majority.

Since the then Mr Galbraith won the seat in 1948, the electorate of Hillhead has shrunk by 8,000, and the Tory majority by a similar amount. Glasgow is being depopulated at the rate of 30,000 a year as its residents escape the rotting inner city to the pleasanter suburbs. The trend continues.

The rogue element in Hillhead's likely voting pattern is its university halls of residence and its belt of student bedsit land. The new electoral register to be pub-

lished in February is likely to include about 2,000 students, whose votes could have a decisive influence on the by-election result; in the 1979 general election the student vote helped to take Labour to only 2,003 votes short of victory.

The Tories, whose likely candidate is Mr Leonard Torpie, a Glasgow lawyer, face an uphill struggle to retain the seat, with their stock dimly low in Scotland. Last month's opinion poll in *The Scotsman* gave them only 14 per cent support, trailing along beside the largely burnt-out Scottish Nationalists. Labour clung to top place with 36 per cent, with the Alliance close behind with 35 per cent, showing rather less well than England.

Mrs Thatcher's economic policies cut little ice on Clydeside, once the humming workshop of the Empire and now with one man in five out of work — the sorry fact that will undoubtedly be the main campaigning plank of the Labour candidate, Mr David Wiseman.

Like Mr Jenkins, Mr Wiseman is a foreigner — a cockney, indeed — but he has the advantage of being a

Ian McDonald: Englishness won't handicap Jenkins

Indeed, the NOP survey in the *Daily Mail* indicated that the vote for the Alliance would not be significantly different whether its candidate was the excessively publicised Mr Jenkins or the relatively unknown, but local, Liberal nominee, Mr Charles Brodie. The clear implication is that Scots voters do not like English candidates.

For such a patently English Welshman to snatch a Scottish seat would be something of a psephological quirk. Almost all Scottish MPs of whatever persuasion are Scots by birth, or at least adoption. It is not simply raw xenophobic tartan nationalism at work; there is a serious undercurrent of belief that Scottish problems are often different from English ones, and that it takes a native to understand them.

No such thoughts trouble the Glasgow North branch of the Social Democrats, who voted unanimously on Tuesday night to invite Mr Jenkins as their candidate.

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Alan Hamilton



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UNBLOCKING THE ROCK

The agreement of Señor Calvo Sotelo, the Spanish Prime Minister, to lift the blockade of Gibraltar on April 20 should mark the opening of a new and more hopeful chapter in the story of the dispute. The closure of the border, decided by General Franco in 1969, was intended to bring pressure on Britain and Gibraltar to come to terms with Spain; but it had the opposite effect. It created resentment in Gibraltar towards Spain, and taught the inhabitants how to get on without the contacts they had always had across the border. The task now must be to try to erase the bitter feelings which have grown up during this time, and to restore normal dealings between the Gibraltarians and their neighbours in the Campo, because that is the only way in which the issue can ever be satisfactorily resolved.

It will not be a rapid process. At the moment there is an unbridgeable gap between the determination of the Gibraltarians not to become part of Spain and the belief of the Spanish government, shared by most Spaniards, that that is what they should be. Nothing of that is changed by yesterday's agreement. Spain maintains its claim to Gibraltar, and Britain maintains its commitment not to make any change in sovereignty over Gibraltar against the wishes of the inhabitants.

But it has been agreed that simultaneously with the opening of the border, talks will open in Lisbon between Britain and Spain about Gibraltar; and that will provide a framework within which

proposals can be made. It is not excluded for all time that Gibraltar might become part of Spain. It is possible that if they were persuaded of Spain's good intentions, the Gibraltarians might one day lose their present hostility to the idea. For some time to come, however, the most fruitful approach will be to concentrate on methods of improving relations across the border.

Yesterday's agreement was the product of a slow evolution in Spanish attitudes. Ever since the end of the Franco regime there has been an awareness in some quarters in Madrid that the blockade of Gibraltar was doing the Spanish cause no good.

In April 1980 an agreement was reached with Britain in Lisbon by which the border would be opened and negotiations on the future of Gibraltar begun; but it ran into opposition from the right and its implementation was postponed. Señor Calvo Sotelo has now felt strong enough to carry out the terms of the Lisbon agreement because he has been able to link the issue with Spain's imminent entry into Nato and its application to join the European Community. He has taken the view that it would be easier to make progress over Gibraltar once Spain was inside Nato — for example by having Spanish commanders in a Nato base in Gibraltar — and he has praised Britain for taking a positive attitude towards Spain in both its approaches.

For Britain, there is much to be gained from yesterday's agreement — and its success-

ful implementation. It removes the irritant of the Gibraltar blockade from Anglo-Spanish relations, and enables efforts to be directed in the more constructive direction of developing contacts between Gibraltar and Spain. At a time when Spain has returned to democracy, and is returning to the mainstream of European affairs by its applications to join the European Community and Nato, it would be extremely unfortunate if the hostility symbolized by the Gibraltar blockade was allowed to continue. Britain's interest is in having Spain as a democratic partner.

In all this, however, the interests of the Gibraltarians must be safeguarded. One of the ironies of the present situation is that, though they initially suffered from the Spanish blockade, the Gibraltarians are now anxious about the effects of opening the frontier. They are afraid of an influx of Spanish workers, at a time when the prospects of employment in the colony have been dealt a blow by the government's recently announced decision to close the naval dockyard. In the long run, the Gibraltarians cannot expect to remain indefinitely in a British cocoon. Their future must lie, to a great extent, in developing economic links with their Spanish hinterland. But thought must be given to helping them over any short-term economic difficulties; and for the long term they must be given no reason to believe that Britain is making decisions about their political future over their heads.

THE GREAT LIFEBOAT STAMPEDE

The Penlee lifeboat disaster was swift and terrible. The public's response to appeals on behalf of the victims' dependants was eager. But it was punctuated by dispute about the destination of the money being collected. A stampede was started by the action of the new crew of the new Penlee lifeboat who went on strike until they received assurance that the money would be distributed in the manner they thought fit — action that did not do honour to the tradition of the lifeboat service and would be better forgotten. Among those stampeded were the Prime Minister, the Attorney General, the Charity Commissioners, and Fleet Street. Within a couple of days things had been fixed so that all the money contributed to the two principal funds, more than £2,500,000, would be divided between the families of the eight men who perished, three of whom were unmarried. All that remains is for the trustees to decide how the division is to be made.

The outcry was against bureaucrats, lawyers, do-gooders, tax collectors or other modern demons interposing themselves between the donors and the objects of their benevolence. It was assumed and stated that all donors to both funds had one object in view: that all they gave should be made over to

the bereaved families. That assumption is manifestly false. Some did and do want that, some did not and do not, some did and do not. Letters received by *The Times* from its readers make that unmistakably plain. And it is just what common sense would lead one to suppose: if asked whether they would like their fiver to be used to top up donations of £300,000 to each family or to be used for other benevolent purposes of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, which is wholly dependent on voluntary public subscription, not all donors would be likely to choose the former.

People gave money out of admiration for the men who gave their lives, out of pity for their families, and out of gratitude to lifeboatmen all round our coasts. The law of charity, which many assees in this instance pronounced to be an ass, would, if its provisions had been allowed to operate, have better matched that multiple motive of benevolence than does the upshot of the public stampede. It would not, for one thing, have left so uncomfortable a disparity between the gifts bestowed on the bereaved of this disaster and on those of Longhope (eight men lost in 1969) and Fraserburgh (five men lost in 1970) when appeals on each occasion brought in about

£100,000, or between the financial provision made for these widows and the circumstances of the 48 other widows of lifeboatmen lost on duty to whom the RNLI pays pensions of just under £40 a week to the age of sixty. It is of course open to the Mousehole families to give away to others some of what has been given to them. But it is harsh to have exposed them to that kind of decision in the glare of the public when they are already experiencing the sorrows and strains of bereavement.

A better way to handle disaster appeals must be found for the future. In a letter we publish today a correspondent makes the sensible suggestion that the Charity Commissioners should publish standard texts of alternative declarations of trust. One would be of the "post-box" type which both Penlee funds have now been made into. Others would be varieties of charitable trust permitting the application of any surplus to kindred charitable purposes after the needs of all those bereaved or injured in the disaster had been generously met. Anyone launching an appeal would announce which kind of fund he was opening, and newspapers would doubtless explain the implications to their readers.

Sugar discrimination

From the Chairman of Tate & Lyle, Limited
Sir, I dislike taking issue with my friend, Lord Campbell. He has always joined with Tate & Lyle in championing the interests of developing country cane sugar producers and he is rightly respected for his leadership and achievements.

However, I cannot agree with all his comments in his letter to you (January 5) about the intricate matter of the EEC's guaranteed price for ACP sugar in 1981-82.

Lord Campbell says the British Government blocked a Commission proposal to pay an increase in price to the ACP exporters of 8½ per cent by refusing a package which other EEC members were prepared to accept. This is not the case. In fact Mr Buchanan-Smith made it clear in a written reply to a parliamentary question of December 16 that HM Government was prepared to accept an increase of 8½ per cent provided the cane storage levy rebate system for cane sugar was abolished. The issue is still unresolved because other member states were unwilling to accept the Commission's proposal.

The difficulty which faced the EEC Commission in seeking to improve the refiners' position was to find a way of doing this which would be acceptable to the ACP suppliers. It is indeed arguable that the Commission's original offer was favourable to the ACP exporters since the EEC beet sugar producers, who were given increases of 8½ per cent for white sugar and 7½ per cent for raw sugar, are required to pay a levy, the minimum amount being 2 per cent on Quota A production, leaving net increases of at best 6½ per cent and 5½ per cent respectively.

Leaving aside this argument, the Commission revised their position to offering the ACP exporters 8½ per cent on the

terms which Mr Buchanan-Smith said would have been acceptable to the British Government. The cane storage levy rebate system which the Commission proposed to abolish has no relevance whatsoever to cane refining which has a regular supply of raw sugar throughout the year, with supplies coming from both the Northern and Southern hemispheres.

In my view the Commission's revised proposal would have settled all the difficulties without imposing a recurrent financial burden on EEC funds. I much hope that at the end of the day good sense will prevail and that the issue will be resolved in the way proposed by the Commission and supported by the British Government. For my part I can see no earthly reason why this sensible compromise proposal should not also receive the full backing of the ACP sugar exporters.

Yours faithfully,
JELLINE,
Tate & Lyle, Limited,
Sugar Quay,
Lower Thames Street, EC3.

Outside Parliament

From Mr Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead (Labour)
Sir, Surely Mr Lindsay Hall misses the point in his letter (January 2) on extra-parliamentary pressure? He lists a number of reforms such as the curtailment of despotic monarchy and the temporal powers of the Church, the abolition of the slave trade and child labour, the Reform Act and the enfranchisement of women, and says that it is "doubtful whether any of these reforms would have been possible without the work of groups outside Parliament as well as in it and the readiness of individuals to challenge, or even to break the law".

Every example quoted relates to a period before the granting of

a universal franchise. Is it possible to produce an equally impressive list of extra-parliamentary action over the past fifty years on which there is general agreement over the rightness of such action?

Part of the constituency I represent is desperately poor and unemployment must be affecting a third of the labour force. Many of the actions taken by Mrs Thatcher have increased the misery of many constituents and the temptation to take action outside Parliament is enormous. But if the left wants to be able to throw the rule book at any who try to illegally and unconstitutionally frustrate the implementation of our programme, do we not start from a stronger moral and political position if our own record on the rule of law is beyond question? It was this point that I thought Michael Foot was trying to make on the Tatchell affair.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK FIELD,
House of Commons.

Nurses' pay

From Miss Waltraud M. Kramp
Sir, A profession which requires A-level standard education and a high degree of devotion (not to mention considerable personal sacrifice working long, anti-social, staggered shifts) should conceivably be valued in terms of adequate financial reward.

The nursing salary, however, appears to stand in inverse proportion to the social value of its contribution to the infrastructure of any one place in this country.

I can, thus, only conclude that waiting for Father Christmas to present nurses with a pay rise is just as untypical as seeing nurses take industrial action.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
WALTRAUD M. KRAMP,
University College Hospital,
Gower Street, WC1.

A new way with disaster funds

From Mr Graham S. Brown

Sir, May I make a proposal as to how, in future, the recurrence of distress arising out of disaster appeals might be avoided, and thus how the generosity of the British public in responding to such appeals might not be discouraged, legally thwarted or capriciously taxed?

The difficulties of the Penlee funds have followed those of the Lynmouth floods, the Gillingham bus disaster and the Aberfan funds.

The problem arises, not from the law itself, but from the absence of an established structure within which disaster appeals can be mounted, recognizing that appeals must necessarily be made urgently and emotionally. Such a structure could be created by the Charity Commissioners publishing model trusts for voluntary adoption by appeal committees. The trusts would be of two main types — benevolent, and charitable.

The former would be exemplified by the "post box" funds which it has now been found the Penwith District Council's fund and the local fishermen's constitute.

Under the latter, the trustees would be required to apply the funds for the relief of the immediate wants, and of the pain and suffering of any surviving victims, and of the bereaved, and for the relief of hardship among them during the rest of their lives. Any surplus would clearly be made applicable for other charitable purposes.

Within this type, one version could provide for the application of surpluses for charitable purposes within the disaster community, another for the relief of disasters arising from similar disasters of fire, flood, and in appropriate cases yet another for the furtherance of the work of public service, voluntary or professional, related to the disaster.

These categories and sub-categories would reflect the spectrum of contributors' intentions apparent in your correspondence columns in recent days.

With careful draftsmanship it would even be legally possible (so long as the perpetuity rules were observed) to have a benevolent and charitable trust, combining both categories, which in practice could pay the bereaved, or any surviving victims, large lump sums, beyond compensation for pain and suffering, and provision for relief of hardship, and could apply any surplus for other charitable purposes.

Model trusts would enable committees to appeal on terms and with consequences which would be clear to all — to the committee, to the public, to the victims' families, and, where applicable, to the surviving victims themselves.

An appeal committee could simply say: "Please send donations to the Loamshire Disaster Fund, which we are constituting as a charitable/local community, Type A."

Such models need not fetter the trustees. On the contrary, not only could wider powers be

The Hillhead candidate

From Miss Margaret Dool

Sir, If politicians ever wonder why the electorate is cynical about them, they could do worse than look to Glasgow, Hillhead. I live near there and have been noting the comments, made with indecent haste so soon after the death of Sir Thomas Galbraith, about possible candidates. While much has been said about how this constituency might benefit the various parties, I have not heard anything about how the candidates might benefit the

public. It was only the candidates who could benefit from this.

I do not believe any sensible person would ever expect an MP to cure all the ills in his constituency, but most people would vote for someone who they thought would tackle some of them and not merely regard the seat as a means of political expediency.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET DOOL,
5 Holyrood Quadrant,
Glasgow.
January 7.

His house in order

From Dr John Nicholson

Sir, Homer nods. Your Literary Editor fails to comment (January 4) on the most interesting feature of his list of novels most popular amongst applicants to the University College, London English Department. I refer of course to the decline and fall of Evelyn Waugh, from seventh position in 1980 to tenth last year. Was Brighouse not being Revisited before the television people got there?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN NICHOLSON,
Bedford College (University of London),
Regent's Park, NW1.
January 4.

Rape case

From Mr G. Laurie

Sir, I am curious for your Legal Correspondent to amplify his view (January 6) that the concept of "contributory negligence" has no validity in the law of rape.

If a 17-year-old girl were to stalk naked in Piccadilly Circus on Cup Final night, in view of the likely result could she initiate a complaint of rape? I would find it hard to understand that there had been no willing anticipation of the fruits of her part.

If she were to sunbathe nude during a June luncheon in Hyde Park, her need to forethink the possible result might arguably be.

If she hitch-hikes alone late at night, one would think that even with the most modest earlier parental guidance she would know, and by implication accept, the risk. Her prudent course is either to seek the best shelter available or to await a police patrol vehicle; to reject prudence is surely negligent.

Yours faithfully,
G. M. LAURIE,
56 Broadlands Avenue,
Chesham,
Buckinghamshire.
January 7.

A diary in question

From Count Nikolai Tolstoy

Sir, Your list of best-selling books in today's (December 16) copy of *The Times* includes *The Diary of a Farmer's Wife, 1796-1797* by Anne Hughes, which formed the subject of a successful BBC dramatisation not long ago.

This book is in fact a forgery. There never was such a person as Anne Hughes, and the "diary" was concocted just before the last war for motives of personal gain. The narrative is an absurd travesty of 18th-century rural life, and I have a letter from the original publisher confirming that it is indeed a known forgery.

I pointed this out to the director of the BBC version, who said he would notify any future publisher.

It is to be hoped that Penguin Books will reconsider their decision to palm off this work onto an innocent public as being genuine historical material.

Yours faithfully,
NIKOLAI TOLSTOY,
Court Close,
Southmoor,
Near Abingdon,
Berkshire.
December 16.

Tennyson's desk

From Mr John Howard

Sir, Much as we residents of Tealby would like to claim the little stream which runs down through the vale by the Bayon's Manor site as the inspiration of Tennyson's poem, the somewhat embittered relationship between the Tealby and Somersby branches of the family would seem to make the story of the desk at Bayon's (letter, January 5) rather unlikely.

Tennyson was 28 years old when he left Lincolnshire and may well have written "The Brook" elsewhere, but his youthful memories of Somersby have surely influenced the poem.

In making a film of Alfred's Lincolnshire years for educational purposes, "Tennyson Country", we used several sequences of the Somersby stream on its journey through the Wolds and were delighted to find how closely many of these scenes corresponded to the words of "The Brook". Using the Tealby stream would have produced a less convincing parallel between the landscape and the poetry.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HOWARD, Director,
Lincolnshire Educational
Television,
Bishop Grosseteste College,
Lincoln.
January 7.

Letters to the editor

From Mr John Boultan

Sir, Such is the prestige of Anthony Burgess (article, December 29) that readers, especially young ones, might think that what he says about music having decayed with the death of Mozart is true. It is not; and some other things he has to say are misleading. Thus, Francis Routh (letter, January 5) is able to deal dismissively with Mr Burgess' wrong notions concerning tonality.

Tonality will be viewed by many readers as an intellectual concept; whereas music qua music is properly a matter for the ears and for the heart. Anthony Burgess contrasts the domination of personality in the music of Beethoven with the subordination of personality by Mozart of personal validity in the interests of musical function. He who cannot see that the perfectly wrought 40th Symphony of Mozart is as personal an utterance as the "Eroica" of Beethoven, and that Beethoven's 7th Symphony is as classically conceived as Mozart's "Jupiter" must have ears of cloth and a heart of stone. Yet Haydn commented, "I will not see such talent again in a hundred years." In fact, almost two hundred years have elapsed. Was it perhaps for Beethoven to fulfil Mozart's prophecy of him that he would give the world something to talk about? Should he have returned to basic principles and founded a new movement that could unite the aims of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries? In the event, he did not. Haydn, ignoring the danger, had warned him against "boldness" but, ignoring the advice Beethoven proceeded on his way and, without the necessary return of first principles, became a bridge between the Classical and Romantic movements. Hence the steady line of deterioration since his time.

Is there no hope? Perhaps it is incumbent on those of us who compose, perform or enjoy listening to music to review our appreciation of this high art. Before embarking upon one of these activities, should we not set its appropriateness against the classical definition of music given by Marsilio Ficino in a letter to Antonio Canigiani, "a man both learned and wise". Quoting both Mercurius and Plato unequivocally as warning of the slippery slope from perfect government to tyranny, it takes when Guardians undervalue music, a term which includes mathematics and poetry as well as harmony.

SOCIAL NEWS

Forthcoming
marriagesMr J. A. O. Ahluwalia
and Miss P. Y. A. Rao.

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr Buggy, A. O., of Ashurst, and Patricia, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs K. A. Wood, of Sandhurst, Hampshire.

Mr M. C. Ashwander
and Miss J. C. Scott.

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr Buggy, A. O., of Ashurst, and Patricia, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs K. A. Wood, of Sandhurst, Hampshire.

Mr J. P. Chadd
and Mrs J. Burton.

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, elder son of the Rev Canon L. F. and Mrs Chadd, Vicar of Fareham, Hampshire, and Nicola, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs J. Johnson, of Dovecot House, Bedford, Hampshire.

Mr J. P. Evans
and Miss L. M. Thorne.

The engagement is announced between Philip, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. E. Evans, of Wellington, Gordano, Finchley, London, and Linda, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs M. N. Thorne, of Paulsgrove, Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Mr P. E. T. Kennauah
and Miss C. J. Miller.

The engagement is announced between Patrick, son of Mr Edward T. Kennauah, of The Moon, Rushmore, Surrey, and the late Mrs Kennauah, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. B. Miller, of 19 Oxford Road, London, SW1.

Flight Lieutenant R. E. Miller,
and Miss J. T. S. Refuge.

The engagement is announced between Ronald, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. P. Miller, of Colchester, Essex, and June, younger daughter of the Rev Titus and Mrs Refuge, of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Mr P. A. V. S. Osman
and Miss J. C. Sellens.

The engagement is announced between Philip, only son of the late Dr Arthur Arnold, Osman, DSC, FRCP, and Mrs Rose Osman, of Gorseye, Crowborough, East Sussex, and June, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank W. Sellens, also of Crowborough.

Mr A. G. W. Osman
and Miss J. K. Wernberg-Meller.

The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr A. Osman, of Bromley, and Mrs Anson Osman, of Oxford, and Jane, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs P. Wernberg-Meller, of Oxford.

Mr J. Orme
and Miss S. Bennett.

The engagement is announced between James, younger son of the late Mr A. D. Orme and Mrs J. S. McGrath, of Middle Farm House, Dinder, and Sally, only daughter of Dr and Mrs D. G. B. Bennett, of Springfield Leigh Woods, Bristol.

Mr E. Oxberry
and Miss V. M. de Clerk.

The engagement is announced between Edward Daniel, son of Mrs E. M. Oxberry, and the late Mr Jack Oxberry, of Pocklington, Yorkshire, and Valerie May, daughter of Mr and Mrs Theo de Clerk, of Claremont, Cape Town, South Africa.

Mr A. W. D. Perrins
and Miss N. P. Hickling.

The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Professor and Mrs Anatol Rapoport, of Cambridge, and daughter of His Honour Judge McLellan and Mrs McLellan, of Long Barn, Catherington, Hampshire.

Mr J. M. Sinclair
and Miss R. A. Benjamin.

The engagement is announced between Jonathan Martin, son of Mr and Mrs H. P. Sinclair, of Pinney, Middlesex, and Rachel Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Benjamin, of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

Mr M. R. Taylor
and Miss L. M. Cheverton.

The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of the late Mr Robert Taylor, of Newgate, Isle of Wight, and Lynn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ronald Cheverton, of Wootton Bridge, Isle of Wight.

Mr J. Topett
and Miss L. Farr.

The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs M. P. K. Topett, of the Laurels, Willoughby-on-the-Wolds, Leicestershire, and Linda, daughter of Mrs H. Farr, and June, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Ronald Cheverton, of Wootton Bridge, Isle of Wight.

Mr W. P. Wakefield
and Miss M. E. H. Jelf.

The engagement is announced between Paul, elder son of Mr and Mrs P. W. Wakefield, of Upperton, West Sussex, and Edwin, younger daughter of that late Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Jelf and Mrs Jelf, of Folkestone, Kent.

Mr D. J. Womersley
and Miss C. J. Godlie.

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs John Womersley, of Dartridge, Bay, North Devon, and Carolyn, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Nicholas Godlie, of Southgate, London.

Cranleigh School

Lent Term begins on Sunday, The Rev Nicholas Menon takes over as chaplain. Paul Hobbs is senior prefect. The Sixth Form Academic and Music Scholarships, the Junior Scholarships and Assisted Place Examinations will take place during the week beginning January 18. Prof. Edward Williams will lecture on 'The Ascent of Mount Kongur' on January 22; 'Guys and Dolls' takes place on March 10-12. Confirmation by Bishop Dorling on March 13, the Preparatory Schools Hockey Tournament on March 15 and a performance of 'The Messiah' on March 21. Term ends on March 27.

Croft House School,
Shillingstone, Dorset

Term starts on January 10. Caroline Wallis continues as head girl. Half term is from February 18-22 and term ends on March 25.

Girls' Public Day
School Trust

Spring Term for the 24 schools of The Girls' Public Day School Trust will begin this week. Half term will be in the weeks of February 12-13 and 19-20, with end on Wednesday, March 31. Miss Elizabeth Gill will take up her appointment as Headmistress of Shrewsbury High School. A service of thanksgiving will be held in Portsmouth Cathedral on February 19 to mark the centenary of Portsmouth High School.

Milestone Schools

Spring Term for the senior tutorial college and middle schools started on Monday. There are 12 new students. Term ends on April 2.

Spring Term for the junior school started on Tuesday. There are 16 new pupils. Term ends on March 19.

Law Report January 9 1982 Family Division

No power to vary separation agreement

and had three boys. There were difficulties in their marriage, as the husband had become involved with another woman. Separation was in 1972. The decree nisi was granted on April 24, 1974 and was made absolute on June 27, 1974. The husband, now aged 42, was a wealthy man.

On the grant of decree nisi the parties had entered into a nuptial contract which had been drawn into a rule of court. By the deed the husband was responsible for the total cost of the boy's education, premiums of inheritance, pocket money and his own life for the benefit of the children, and his former wife, the outgoing and maintenance of the wife's London home and the cost of a full-time domestic helper.

The consent order of July 1974 made provision for the wife. She was to receive annually £1,000 of tax-free cash, as well as a secured provision of £4,800 a year free of tax. The order also provided for the maintenance of the three boys.

The husband sought to vary the separation agreement and the periodical payments order on the grounds that his former wife had a stable relationship with another man amounting to cohabitation.

Mr J. C. Tatham for the husband; Mr Jonathan Cole for the wife.

MR JUSTICE WOOD said that the parties had married in 1961

and had had for several years a stable relationship with a man who was some 16 years younger. The man, an unemployed chartered accountant, was living with the wife in her country home which he had bought on her behalf. The wife was physically and emotionally dependent on her friend who, according to the husband had been indirectly subsidised by him. Robert ought to make some contribution to the wife's maintenance.

Section 35(1) of the 1973 Act provided "Where a maintenance agreement is for the time being subsisting, the other party may apply to the court . . . for an order under this section".

The husband had to prove that there was a subsisting maintenance agreement. The separation agreement was made a rule of court for the purposes of enforcement. In these circumstances the agreement was not, in his Lordship's opinion a subsisting maintenance agreement and did not fall within the definition of "agreement" of the 1973 Act. In support of that view the court adopted the reasoning

that there was a subsisting maintenance agreement. The separation agreement was made a rule of court and was an order of the court for the purposes of enforcement. In these circumstances the agreement was not, in his Lordship's opinion a subsisting maintenance agreement and did not fall within the definition of "agreement" of the 1973 Act.

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Cambridge Movement and Christian unity

In his *Apologia* Newman tells a strange story against himself, partly by way of making amends, to the effect that he had snubbed a visitor who was in Oxford begging for prayers for unity.

It was January, 1840, and Newman was at the height of his influence as leader of the Tractarians. The Rev George Spencer, from Cambridge, was a man of about his own age who had become a Roman Catholic a few years earlier. He had come from Osborn Birmingham, and was staying for a few days with the Revd William Palmer at Magdalen.

"It was very rude to him, I would not meet him at dinner, and that, though I did not say so, because I considered him in *locum apostolae* of the Anglican Church, and I beg his pardon for it", wrote. But later he met him privately, and admitted: "When he came to my rooms with Mr Palmer, so glad was my heart to see him that I could have laughed for joy".

The visit was not fruitful. Spencer was genuine, if a touch of tour, with current trends at Oxford. His theme was that the conversion of England to Catholicity would lead to the revival of true religion throughout the world. If Newman could not associate himself with that campaign of prayer there was no reason why he should not launch another of

his own.

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If Newman could

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that campaign of prayer

there was no reason why he

should not launch another of

his own.

So what of George

Spencer?

A decade or more

ago the Oxford Movement

began with the publication

of an Anglo-Irish

clan,

Kenelm Digby, scion of an

Anglo-Irish clan,

was little more than

16 but already at

Cambridge when he asked for

instruction by a Jesuit at

Farm Street Church. Later he

and Phillips rode 25 miles

to Sundays at Old Hall to attend

Mass: he devoted his fortune

to long and — to modern

eyes — tedious historical

works in the vein of

Montalembert's *Monks of the*

World.

George Spencer,

the youngest son of Earl

Spencer, was for a time

rector of Brington, on the

family estates in Northamptonshire.

He, too, may be

said to have read his way

towards Rome, but took the

final step at the instance of

Phillips.

Later in life he followed

his friend, Padre Domenico

Barberi, whom he had helped

to come to England, and was

to receive Newman at Little

more in October 1845. He

became a Passionist himself

they stood out among the English Catholics, then only emerging from their isolation, thanks to the efforts of Father Ignatius, as he was known and universally loved, died after preaching his last mission at Coalbridge in Scotland in 1824.

Between them these enthusiasts, though eclipsed by their Oxford successors and the eventual reconstruction of Roman Catholic life brought about by Cardinal Wiseman, deserve credit for having blazed a trail in the early days of Queen Victoria. Their activities were not confined to England, but formed part of the religious revival, optimistic and romantic, that swept Europe after the Napoleonic era.

So to claim for them that they were among the pioneers of the ecumenical movement is not altogether far from the truth. Between them this trio from Coalbridge laid foundations which have been overlaid by the passage of time. But the very obscurity into which they have all fallen is bound to prove a challenge to scholars.

An American priest was lately working at Oxford on Sir Spencer; there are plans to look into the life and work of Phillips de Lisle, and one hopes that there is a Frenchman somewhere studying Digby, who had a great regard for everything French.

Herbert Keldany

Dr Runcie

fulfils

a dream

The archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, the first Anglican Primate to visit China since its first official visit in 1978, has arrived in Nanking yesterday and said he hoped his brief visit would lead to something more substantial.

He spoke after being greeted by Bishop Ding Guoxuan, the Chinese primate, in a formal ceremony at the Chinese seminary, which opened last year in Nanking.

No government officials were on hand to greet Dr Runcie, as his visit is regarded as private.

Ronald Chinese reporters were

at the airport and at a later press conference.

Dr Runcie told reporters he hoped the three-day trip, which he described as a great thrill and the fulfilment of a dream, would not be his last. The point of his visit, he said, was to "make clear that we will be able to come for something more substantial later," he said.

He did not elaborate but added that he hoped Bishop Ding would be able to accept an invitation to visit Britain this year.

According to Chinese sources, Chinese Protestants number 10 million compared with 700,000 before the Communists came to power in 1949, and the figure is still growing.

But although the Communist Government has turned a more tolerant face towards religion after years of suppression, the official attitude tends to be ambivalent and Dr Runcie will be careful to avoid offending official sensitivities.

A month ago a Chinese official complained of "penetration by external religious forces, especially by Protestants and Catholics".

Be apparently referring to the reported arrival of hundreds of thousands of Bibles in south China last year, said to have been

shipped by a Western missionary group.

Dr Runcie steered clear of controversy during his visit, but he was interested to learn that progress and what patterns are possible here at the present time from which we might learn."

Dr Runcie will today visit the Nanking seminary, where 51 students are training to become protestant pastors.

According to Chinese sources, more than 160 Protestant churches

have reopened in China since the 1966-76 cultural revolution, when organized religion was virtually destroyed.

But Dr Runcie will not preach at public service during his visit because of pressure of time, according to a aide.

Dr Runcie said he would take part in a private service at his hotel with his Chinese hosts before flying to Hong Kong tomorrow. — Reuter.

Saturday Review

On a summer day by the lake shore, 46-year-old Harry 'Rabbit' Angstrom, late-century American provincial man, swims, plays tennis, jogs, lusts... and broods on the living and the lost. Somehow, in 1979, he feels

There must be a good way to live

by John Updike

Water. Rabbit distrusts the element though the little brown hourglass-shaped lake that laps the gritty beach in front of the Springers' old cottage in the Poconos seems friendly and tame, and he swims in it every day, taking a dip before breakfast, before Janice is awake, and while Ma Springer in her quilted bathrobe fusses at the old oil stove to make the morning coffee.

On weekdays when there aren't so many people around he walks down across the coarse imported sand wrapped in a beach towel and, after a glance right and left at the cottages that flank the back in the pines, slips into the lake naked. What luxury! A chill silver embrace down and through his groin. Gulls circling near the surface shatter and reassemble as he splashes through them, cleaving the plane of liquid stillness, sending ripples right and left toward muddy rooky banks city blocks away. A film of mist sits visible on the skin of the lake if the hour is early enough.

He was never an early-to-rise freak but sees the point of it now, you get into the day at the start, before it gets rolling, and roll with it. The film of mist tastes of evening chill, of unpolished freshness in a world waking with him.

As a kid Rabbit never went to summer camps, maybe Nelson is right they were too poor, it never occurred to them. The hot cracked sidewalks and dusty playground of Mt Judge were summer enough, and the few trips to the Jersey Shore his parents organized stuck up in his remembrance as almost torture, the hours on poky roads in the old Model A and then the mud-brown Chevy, his sister and mother adding to the heat the vapours of female exasperation. Pop dogged at the wheel, the back of his neck sweaty and scrawny and freckled while the flat little towns of New Jersey threw back at Harry distorted echoes of his own town, his own life, for which he was homesick after the first day or so.

So as a stranger to summer places Rabbit had come to this cottage. Fred Springer had bought rather late in his life, after the Toyota franchise had made him more than a used-car dealer, after his one child was married and grown. Harry and Janice used to come for just visits of a week. The space was too small, the tensions would begin to rub through, with Nelson bored and bug-eaten after the first day or so.

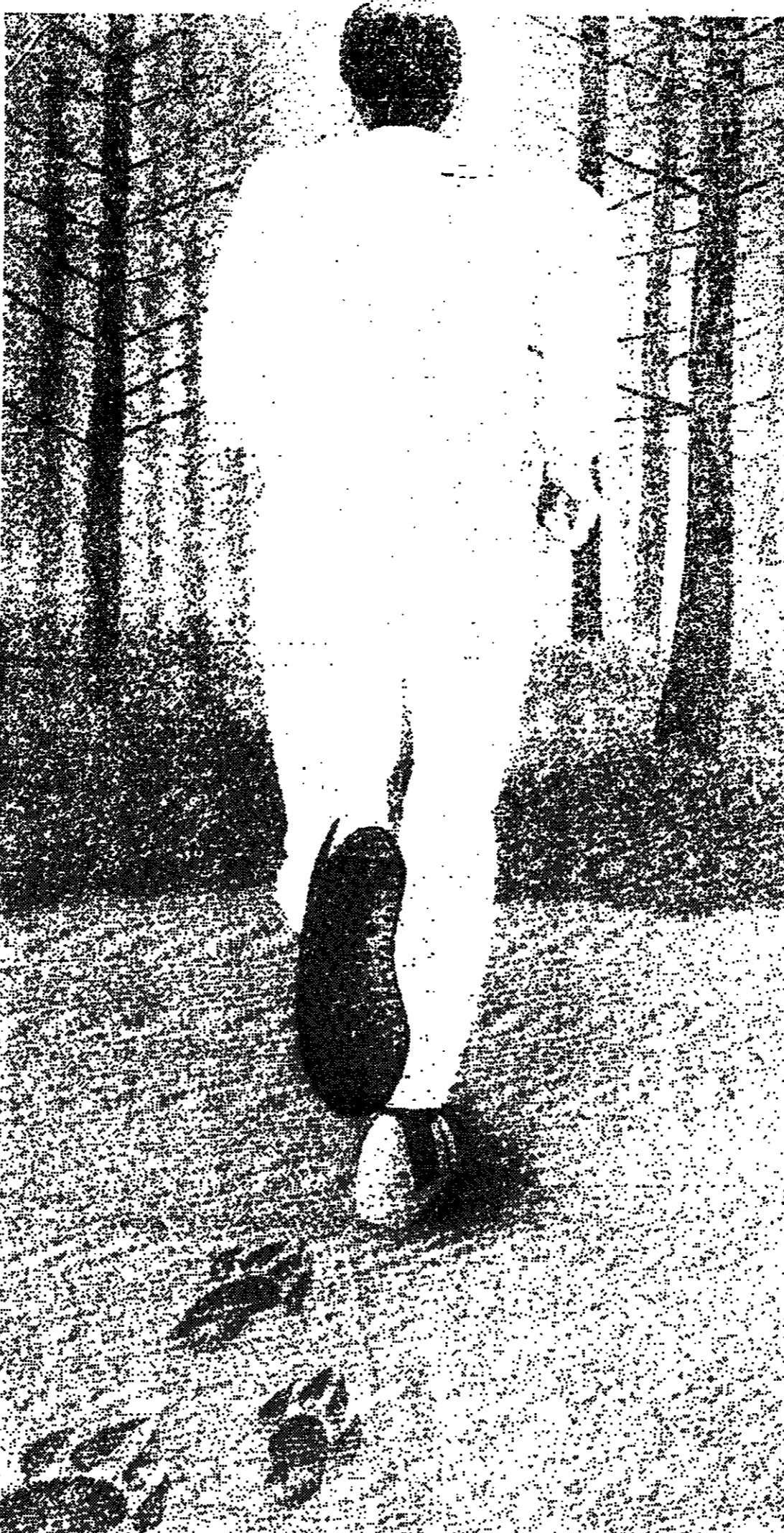
When the old man Springer died Harry became the man of the place and at last understood that Nature isn't just something that pushes up through the sidewalk cracks and keeps the farmers trapped in the sticks but a luxury, a delicacy that can be bought and fenced off and kept pure for the more fortunate, in an impure age.

Not that this five-room, darkened cottage, which Ma Springer rents for all but these three weeks of August, taking the Labor Day gravy and renting into hunting season if she can, was in any league with the gabled estates and lodges and resort hotels that are all around them tumbling down or being broken up by developers; but it has two acres of woods behind it, and a dock and rowboat of its own, and holds out to Harry the possibility that life can be lived selectively, as one chooses from a menu, or with the racket is not his hand.

The traffic as they neared the Shore became thicker, savage, metropolitan. Cars, he has always found cars, their glint, their exclamations, cruel. Then, at last arriving in a burst of indignities — the parking lot full, the bath-house attendant rude — they would enter upon a few stilted hours on the alien beach whose dry sand burned the feet and scratched in the crotch and whose wet ribs where the sea had receded had a deadly bottomless smell, a smell of vast death. Every found shell had this frightening faint stink.

His parents in bathing suits alarmed him. His mother didn't look obscenely fat like some of the other mothers but bony and long and hard, yellowish in colour, clayey, and as she stood to call him or little Mim back from the suspect crowds of strangers or the dangerous rumour of undertow her arms seemed to be flapping like featherless wings. Not Rabbit then, he would be called as "Hassy Hassy!"

And his father's skin where the workclothes always covered



away. He loves men, uncomplaining with their pot bellies, and cross-hatched red necks, embarrassed for what to talk about when the game is over, whatever the game is.

What threadbare thing we made of life! Yet what a marvellous thing the mind is, they can't make a machine like it, though some of these computers Ed was telling about fill rooms; and the body can do a thousand things there isn't a factory in the world can duplicate the motion. He used to love screwing, though more and more he's willing just to think about it and let the younger people fight over it, meeting in their bars and cars, amazing how many of them are suddenly, just walking down the street now or getting into a movie line he often seems to be the oldest guy in sight.

He begins to run. In the woods, along the old logging roads and bridle trails, he ponderously speeds in tennis shoes first, orange with clay dust, and then in gold-and-blue Nikes bought as a sporting goods shop in Scranton especially for this, running shoes with tipped-up soles at toe and heel, soles whose resilient circles like flattened cleats lift him powerfully as, growing lighter and quicker and quieter, he runs.

At first he feels his weight like some murderous burden swaddled about his heart and lungs and his thigh muscles ache in the morning so that he staggers in leaving the bed and laughs aloud in surprise. But as over the days, running after supper in the cool of the early evening while all the light has not ebbed from the woods, he accustoms his body to this new demand, his legs tighten, his weight seems less, his chest holds more air, the twigs fly past his ears as if winged on their own, and he extends the distance he jogs, eventually managing the mile and a half to the waist of the hourglass, where the gates of an old estate bar the way.

Carbon Castle the locals call the estate, built by a coal baron from Scranton and now little utilized by his scattered and dwindled descendants, the swimming pool drained, the tennis courts overgrown, energy gone. The glass eyes of the stuffed deer heads in the hunting lodge stare through cobwebs; the great main house with its precipitous slate roofs and diamond-paneled windows is boarded up, though ten years ago one of the grandsons tried to make of it a commune, the villagers say. The young people vandalized the place, the story runs, and sold off everything they could move, including the two bronze brontosaurus that guarded the main entrance, emblems of the Coal Age.

The heavy iron gates to Carbon Castle are double-chained and padlocked; Rabbit touches the forbidding metal, takes a breath for a still second while the world feels still to be rushing on, pouring through the tremble of his legs, then turns and jogs back, casting his mind wide, so as to become unconscious of his heaving body.

There is along the way an open space, once a meadow, now spiced with cedars and tassel-headed weeds, where swallows dip and careen, eating insects revived in the evening damp. Like these swallows Rabbit, the blue and gold of his new shoes flickering, skims above the earth, above the dead.

The dead stare upwards, Mom and Pop lying together again as for so many years on that sway-backed bed they'd bought second-hand during the Depression and never got around to replacing though it squeaked like a tricycle left out in the rain and was so short Pop's feet stuck out of the covers. Papery-white feet that got mottled and marbled with veins finally, if he'd ever have exercised he might have lived longer.

Tothero down there is all eyes, eyes big as saucers staring out of his lopsided head while his swollen tongue looks for a word. Fred Springer, who put him where he is, egging on, hunched over and grimacing like a man with a poker hand so good it hurts. Skeeter, that newspaper clipping claimed had fired upon the Philly cops first even though there were twenty of them in the yard and hallways and only some pregnant mothers and children on the commune premises. Skeeter ignites and blackens, the letters turning white on the crinkling ash; then he adds some crescent-shaped scraps of planed fruitwood a local furniture maker sells by the bushel outside his factory. This fire greets the dark as Janice and her mother, the dishes done, come in and get out the pinocchio deck.

The meadow ends and Harry enters a tunnel, getting dark now, the needles a carpet. He makes no sound, Indians moved without sound through trees without end where a single twig snapping meant death, his legs in his fatigue cannot be exactly controlled but flail against the cushioned path like arms of a loose machine whose gears and joints have been bevelled by wear. Becky, a mere seed laid to rest, and Jill, a pale seedling held from the sun, hang in the earth, he imagines, like stars, and beyond them there are

myriads, whole races like the Cambodians, that have drifted into death.

He is treading on them all, they are resilient, they are cheering him on, his lungs are burning, his heart burns, he is a membrane removed from the hosts below, their filaments caress his ankles, he loves the earth, he will never die.

The last hundred feet, up their path to the tilting front porch, Rabbit sprints. He opens the front screen door and feels the punky floorboards bounce under him. The milk-glass shades of the old kerosene lamps, increasingly valuable as antiques, tremble like the panes in the breakfast. Janice emerges barefoot from the kitchen and says, "Harry, you're all red in the face."

"I'm — all — right."

"Sit down. For heaven's sakes. What are you training for?"

"The big bout," he pants. "It feels great. To press against. Your own limitations."

"You're pressing too hard if you ask me. Mother and I thought you got lost. We want to play pinocchio."

"I got to take a shower. The trouble with running is. You get all sweaty."

"I still don't know what you're trying to prove." With that Phillies shirt on she looks like Nelson, before he filled out and needed to shave.

"It's now or never," he tells her, the blood of fantasy rushing through his brain. "There's people out to get me. I can lie down now. Or fight."

"Who's out to get you?"

"You should know. You hatched him."

The hot water here runs off a little electric unit and is scalding for a few minutes and then cools with alarming rapidity. Rabbit thinks, a good way to kill somebody would be to turn off the cold water while they're in the shower.

He hops out before the hot gives out totally, admires the wet prints of his big feet on the bare pine floors of this attic-shaped upstairs, and thinks of his daughter. Her feet in those cork-soled platforms. With her leggy pallor and calm round face she glows like a ghost but unlike the dead shares the skin of this planet with him, breathes air, immerses herself in water, moves from element to element, and grows.

He goes into the bedroom he and Janice have here and dresses himself in Jockey shorts, an alligator shirt, and soft Levi's all washed and tumble-dried at the laundromat behind the little Acme in the village. Each crisp item of his well-being he is fitting into place.

As he sits on the bed to put on fresh socks a red ray of late sun slices through a gap in the pines and flickers knifelike across his toes, the orangish corals and the little hairs between the joints, and the nails, translucent like the thin sheets in furnace peepholes. There are feet that have done worse than his, on a lot of women's in summer sandals you notice how the little toes have been bent under by years of pointy high-heeled shoes, and the big toes pushed over so the joint sticks out like a broken bone; thank God since he is a man that has never had to happen to him. Nor to Cindy Murkett either, come to think of it: chubby and square as a baby boy's on the poolside flagstones, toes side by side like candies in a box. Suck. That lucky stiff Webb. Still. It's good to be alive.

Harry goes downstairs and adds the fourth element to his happiness; he lights a fire. Ma Springer, riding shrewdly with the times, has bought a new wood stove. Its bright black flue pipe fits snugly into the snugged old fireplace of ugly fieldstones. Old man Springer had installed baseboard electric heat when the cottage was connected for electricity, but his widow begrudges the expense of turning it on, even though by August the nights bring in a chill from the lake.

The stove was made in Taiwan and clean as a skillet, installed just this summer. Harry lays some rough sticks found around the cottage on top of a crumpled Sports page from the Philadelphia Bulletin and watches them catch, watches the words *Eagles Ready* ignite and blacken, the letters turning white on the crinkling ash; then he adds some crescent-shaped scraps of planed fruitwood a local furniture maker sells by the bushel outside his factory. This fire greets the dark as Janice and her mother, the dishes done, come in and get out the pinocchio deck.

© John Updike 1982

An extract from John Updike's latest novel, *Rabbit*, is Rich, to be published on Monday by Andre Deutsch at £7.95.

birth. There must be a good way to live.

He eases off on the gin and smacks. He swims and listens to Ma Springer reminisce over the morning coffee and goes down into the village with Janice each day to shop. At night they play three-handed pinocchio by the harsh light of bridge lamps, the light feeling harsh because when he had first come to this place they lit kerosene lamps, with fragile interior cones of glowing ash, and went to bed soon after dark, the crickets throbbed after the first day or so.

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He does not like to fish, nor does he much like playing tennis with Janice against one of the other couples that have access to the lake community's shared court, an old rectangle of clay in the pines, the edges coated with brown needles and the chicken-wire fencing drooping like wet wash. Janice plays every day at the Flying Eagle, and beside her efficient grace she feels cumbersome and comical. The ball seems too small and the racket is not his hand.

What has he done, he wonders as he waits to receive the serve, with this life of his more, than half over? He was a good boy to his mother and then a good boy to the crowds at the basketball games, a good boy to

his wife and his in-laws; Mim, his sister; Nelson his son; Ruth, his ex-lover; Skeeter, a black friend killed on the run from the police; Becky, Rabbit's drowned baby daughter; Jill, a young friend killed in Rabbit's burning house; and Cindy and Webb Murkett, friends of the Angstroms at their country club.

John Updike, aged 49, father of four, divorced, remarried, educated Harvard and Ruskin school at Oxford, poet, short-story writer, New Yorker critic, novelist with a strongly autobiographical bent, is not Harry "Rabbit" Angstrom, central figure of his three "Rabbit" novels — *Rabbit Run* (1960), *Rabbit Redux* (1971), and now *Rabbit is Rich*.

For one thing, Rabbit is 6ft 3in, and Updike is 6ft. For another, Rabbit is a Toyota dealer and does not read books; Updike does, and moreover has been writing them at the rate of one a year since *The Poorhouse Fair* (1959). They include *The Centaur* (1963), *Couples* (1968), *Bech: A Book* (1970), and *The Coup* (1979). If the American

Tohero his old coach, who saw in Rabbit something special. And Ruth saw in him something special too, though she saw it winking out.

For a while Harry had kicked against death, then he gave in and went to work. Now the dead are so many he feels for the living around him the camaraderie of survivors. He loves these people with him, peered in among the lines of the tennis court. Ed and Loretta: he's an electrical contractor from Easton specializing in computer installations.

Harry thinks spaghetti arm and the ball flies above their heads; Harry loves the treetops above their heads, and the August blue above these. What does he know? He never reads a book, just the newspaper to have something to say to people, and then mostly human interest stories, like where the Shah is heading next and how sick he really is, and that Baltimore doctor.

He loves Nature, though he can name almost nothing in it. Are these pines, or spruces, or firs? He loves money, though he doesn't understand how it flows to him, or how it leaks

reviews are right, Updike's "Rabbit" trilogy — no one knows if Harry Angstrom will emerge again in 1991, or sooner — may prove the classic delineation of three decades of social change in provincial and domestic America.

As well as Rabbit, the characters appearing, or mentioned, in this extract include: Janice, his wife; Fred and Ma Springer, his in-laws; Mim, his sister; Nelson his son; Ruth, his ex-lover; Skeeter, a black friend killed on the run from the police; Becky, Rabbit's drowned baby daughter; Jill, a young friend killed in Rabbit's burning house; and Cindy and Webb Murkett, friends of the Angstroms at their country club.

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The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

THE ROYAL OPERA

Tues. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 80

Susan Fleetwood

who appears in the RSC production of Arthur Schnitzler's 'La Ronde' opening at the Aldwych on Monday



Front line

Though the race to stage Schnitzler's *'La Ronde'*, now that it is out of legal and copyright difficulties, has been narrowly won by the Royal Exchange company in Manchester, the RSC in London are coming a close second, leaving BBC television's production to trail by several weeks; John Barton, as adapter and director for the Aldwych, has his version running from Monday with Susan Fleetwood at the head of a strong cast.

Miss Fleetwood is of course no stranger to the RSC, a company she first joined in 1967, leaving in 1975 to join the National and returning to the Stratford fold five years later. Though her brother is the Fleetwood of Fleetwood Mac, hers has been a resolutely uncommercial, indeed almost austere, career: occasional television series (most recently *The Good Soldier*) and a film from which she was eventually totally cut (*Forbush and the Penguins*) have been virtually the only interruptions to prolonged stays with the two major subsidized companies, and after almost 20 years in the business she has yet to make her West End debut:

"I suppose it's just that I've always liked the company life, never wanted to go out into the marketplace and test my luck; I know that as a result I'm really too little known for the work I do" (she was Ophelia to both Albert Finney and Ian McKellen), is currently Rosalind at the Aldwych and was an unforgettable Pagan Mike at the National "and I know that I might be more useful to the RSC if my name could actually tempt people into a theatre the way that say Helen Mirren does. But I'm just not very famous and there's not a lot you can do about that until the right television comes along."

Born 36 years ago in Scotland, the daughter of an RAF pilot, Susan Fleetwood spent most of her early life travelling with her father: "My education was shot to hell but it was a wonderful life and then in the mid-fifties we settled back in England on a Thames barge; I was dyslexic, though at the time nobody knew much about that and they thought I was just daft not to read or write much at 14. Reading and learning lines is still a struggle, though I have

always been desperately determined and at 16 I got all my O levels by sheer mad determination to win through."

From school she got into RADA in the generation of Terry Hands and Ian Ogilvy:

"At the end of the two years a small group of us, including Terry, formed a company: John McEnery, Peter James [now running the Lyric, Hammersmith] and Martin Jenkins [now BBC radio] were the other founders members, and we all went up to Liverpool because in 1964 the Beatles had just emerged, and the whole city was jumping."

"It was a marvellous time, but after two years we began simply to get too old to go on living like drama students, so I auditioned for the RSC, which Terry had just joined

as a director, and they put me straight into the 1967

Theatreground tour of *The Hollow Crown*."

That RSC start gave Susan Fleetwood a taste for recitals which is still very strong; she has indeed just returned from a gruelling tour of Southern California leading an RSC group of "actors-in-residence" around the campus circuit, lecturing and playing instant Shakespeare to large gatherings of drama students:

"What seemed to interest them most was that I was Fleetwood Mac's sister. They kept asking how a rock star and a classical actress could have come out of the same parentage, so I told them it was very much the same kind of life. We're both to do with large audiences and rhythm and making a lot of noise on a stage. That seemed to satisfy them."

When *'La Ronde'* reaches the end of its limited season at the Aldwych this spring, Susan Fleetwood will find herself out of a job for the first time in many months:

"None of those young new directors at Stratford seems to want me this summer, and I've not been asked to go into the Barbican, so I'll just have to see what the outside world is like."

Sheridan Morley



Susan Fleetwood: between mistress and crone

Televi/Elkan Allan

Hollywood hostilities

Eight ITV programme executives leave for Hollywood tomorrow with Leslie Halliwell, their film and filmed series buyer. On Monday, a more modest BBC entourage — Gunnar Rugheimer, Halliwell's opposite number, and Alan Hart, Controller of BBC1 — also arrive.

The parties will stay in different hotels, and although they will be shown the same films by the same people, they will take care never to come face to face. They are deadly rivals, each team attempting first to pick the winners among this year's score of new series from the American networks and then to buy their British use for the lowest possible price. Sometimes both sides want the same package: the auction that then results is more bitter than anything seen at Sotheby's or Christie's.

Two years ago the toughest battle was over a series called *Supertv*, which both sides were convinced would be the ratings-grabber of the year. In the event, the BBC's victory turned to ashes when the series was derailed early in its American run being laughed off the NBC screen for its unconvincing train models and the banality of the plots going on inside the speeding express. It never even reached British screens and had to be written off by an embarrassed BBC.

complaining that we were pushing up the prices beyond them. For only a million more, we had picked up much better value. Going to the press like that is a typical example of the kind of antagonism that never used to exist."

Only in this area of American purchases and sport does the gentlemanly and skip slip from the faces of the two British television monopolies. There was the little master of *Dallas*, for instance.

"We don't want *Dallas*, *Knots Landing* or the next one the BBC has bought, *Dynasty*," says Halliwell, so smoothly that you almost believe him. "They are too difficult for us to schedule. Look how we had to run the excellent series we bought from Irish television, *Strum City*, on a split network at 10.45 pm." That argument doesn't, of course, take such purchases as *Magnum* and *Quincy* into account, both of which have been networked at peak time in the last few months (and, incidentally, have done poorly in the ratings).

Nevertheless, the distributors of *Dallas* claimed that they had had a better offer from ITV than they had from the BBC to renew JR and Co this season, and they were therefore switching channels.

Only after the BBC took

out wrists to enforce their verbal contract, both in America and Britain, did Worldwide yield.

Halliwell claims that it was all a misunderstanding, and that at no time did he make a firm counter-offer. He says he was asked a hypothetical question, "Would you pick it up if the BBC don't come up with a better offer?" and, after protesting that neither side poached from the other, replied that he would have to think about it.

Personally, I welcome an eyeball-to-eyeball battle over American purchases, and would like to see such animosity between the BBC and ITV carried over to more parts of programming. What is the point of having a theoretically competitive television set-up if they don't compete? When they openly cooperate, the results are usually deadening, as in the recently established joint ratings body, which has removed the monthly public confrontation over who had most viewers, and with it some of the spice of television life.

With Channel Four coming along later this year to take over from the BBC 2, the pitch of competition is fortunately bound to intensify, and there will almost certainly be more animosity this week in Hollywood than ever before. I only hope that the spoils are worth fighting over.

Television/Michael Church

Friendly adventures in the Fifties

BBC drama continues as erratic as ever. This week's Play for Today was a porcine wallow in the land of eh-ooop and ooh-ay which made Coronation Street sound like Shakespeare. Tim Preece's *The Combination*, in last night's Playhouse slot (BBC2), was a subtler evocation of ordinary life in the early Fifties than I have seen since those days became well and truly history.

The story, about two boys' efforts to escape the dowdiness of the provinces for the bright lights of the Festival of Britain, was vestigial. The setting was the substance: a childhood world in which toys were the product of inspired improvisation, a home shattered by a father's residual war neurosis, an early friendship shattered by the grammar/sec. mod. divide. Peter Hammond's direction matched the acute observation of the script; Dorothy

Tutin, Henry Milner and Julian Davies led a strong cast.

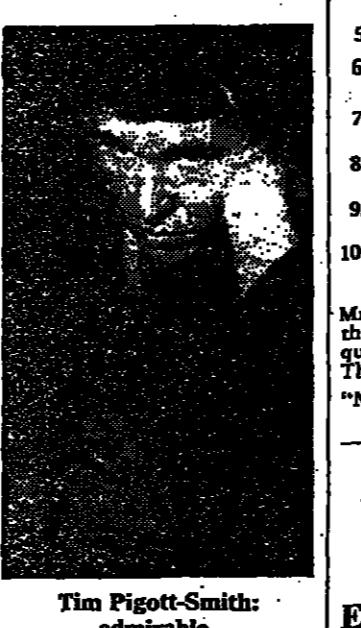
For its first ten minutes *Fame is the Spur* (BBC1) ran horribly true to form. The titles rolled in the obligatory sepia haze, accompanied by the obligatory gritty yet plangent theme. An atmosphere of thrift and clean linen was established as the hero's careworn parents moved quietly about their humble abode. Upstairs the older generation was wheezing, gurgling and coughing its life out, with just time enough to pass on the political icons which would fire the hero on his trajectory through life.

Hang on, though: this was written by Elaine Morgan and directed by David Gilmour. Had they too been struck down by the Wilfred and Eileen disease, which kills with its cloying touch? The answer proved to be no: the

theme quickly retires to the wings and the cast, led by the admirable Tim Pigott-Smith, got on with their job, building up on the whole convincing world in which three poor Manchester lads nobly strove to better themselves.

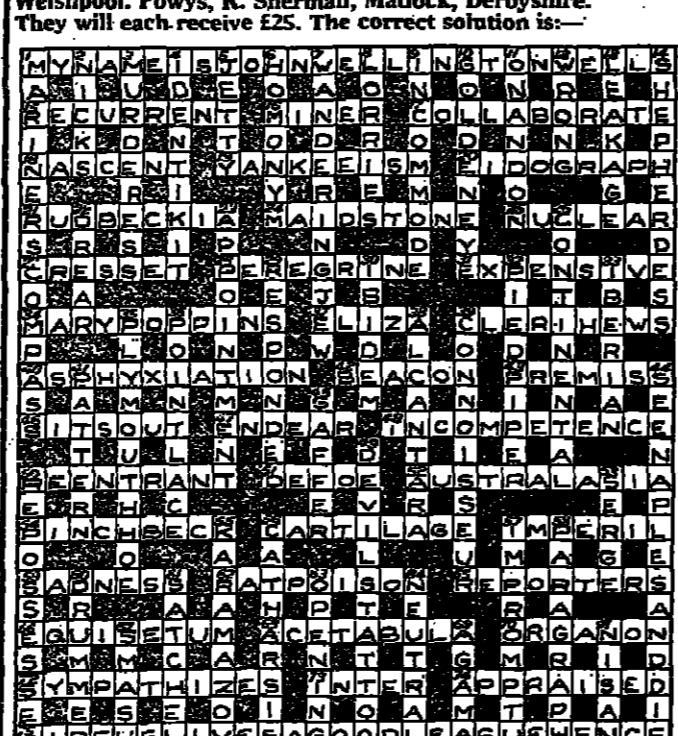
Bizarre (ITV), billed as an "outrageous" new comedy show... zany... daring... merciless... is apparently a product of American cable TV when unfettered by the prudishness of the big networks. American cable TV can indeed be outrageous, but this was anything but. Most of the limping gags involved the pulverization of living things, and in a team as seemingly talentless as *Bizarre*'s one can see the reason for their insensate rage. The canned audience clapped desperately, presumably under threat of instant pulverization if they did not.

Tim Pigott-Smith: admirable



Jumbo Crossword Solution

The winners of the Christmas Jumbo Crossword Competition are: R. G. S. Leask, Milngavie, Glasgow, P. H. Kent, East Sheen Avenue, London SW14; Mrs. J. Hatton, Staverton Road, Oxford, N. V. Pinks, Fleden, Hemel Hempstead, S. C. Denaff, Welshpool, Powys, R. Sherman, Matlock, Derbyshire. They will each receive £25. The correct solution is:



German wine holiday/Granny rail fares/Latest discounts

Study tour/Robin Young

Back to schloss

I should by now know quite a lot about German wines, having not long ago had the chance to drink 248 of them in less than a week. It was, please believe me, a working holiday. I have a well-filled notebook to prove it was five days of serious study, and not just a protracted carouse.

The German Wine Academy, as its name implies, provides one of the most scholarly of vinous holidays available. Others range from glorified pub crawls in the most touristically attractive wine producing areas to convivial affairs in which wine merchants show off their sources of supply to their customers.

The fact that the academy has the official support of the German wine industry does not mean that it caters only for experts. Our course, the 43rd, included a nomadic American who was there to find out why she did not like German wine; an Australian who wanted to have something to tell his wine buff friends when he got home; and a British army lieutenant whose antidote to a day's wine tasting was to sink beer by the two-litre bootful at night.

We were based in the Romantik Hotel Schwan. It mattered little that I was in the comparatively functional annexe thereto: we were out of the hotel by 8.30 am and seldom returned before 10 at night. The leaden windows of the ornate look out over panys beds and lawns to the Rhine, but we had no time to walk the towpath till the last day of our stay. There was, however, a nightingale in full song every night when we returned, and the Gasthaus zur Krone in the village square kept its doors open for us.

There were few concessions to our rubber-necking inclinations. A brisk tour of Kloster Eberbach, the twelfth century Cistercian monastery which is now the academy's headquarters, was the light relief in a morning in which we learnt statistics of the German wine industry, the influence of soil, climate and grape variety on wine, and how to taste wine and keep notes of our impressions.

In each region we visited (seven of the 11 officially designated) we were treated to a representative tasting, and these were not just any wines, nor what the proprietor of the estate we were visiting cared to show us, but wines specially selected for us by a tasting committee of local growers.

No dallying in the inn-sign festooned, commercially quaint Drosselgasse in Rudesheim for us, but our tasting of the wines of Mittelheim was conducted aboard a Rhine steamer, a glass from each pretty village we sailed past.

Similarly we were introduced to Baden wines within the walls of Heidelberg Castle, and at Cochem on the Moselle had time for a stroll up to the town's decorative fortress before setting to a blind tasting of sparkling wines.

By then we knew just enough to upset our tutor by

voting Italian Asti Spumante and French champagne into the top places over a group of German sekt from which it was plainly hoped we should not be able to distinguish them.

At the Geisenheim research institute we were hugely entertained by the ebullient doyens of German wine breeding and selection. I learnt the meaning of the "English copulation cut", and was glad to hear they do not use it any more.

Wherever we went we were met by the proprietor or cellarmaster, who almost invariably spoke English as did our tutors. At Schloss Johannisberg (where a Metternich still pays the Habsburgs a tithe of his crop) we were in the charge of the man whose signature has appeared on the classic vintages for the past 40 years. At Schloss Vollrads it was the young Count Matuschka-Greiffenclau himself who told us about the new lightness in German food which so suited his drier wines, while we quietly got on with the business of digesting our gargantuan plate of pig ribs, sauerkraut and potato.

After another hefty lunch (stuffed sow's stomach) we visited a testing station where the Germans apply their standards of quality control, with a voluntary panel of 150 tasters sipping their way through 37,000 samples a year. We were given the doubtful privilege of sampling some of the few that had failed, and of attempting to diagnose their faults.

It was a sober test than our Friday examination, in which we generally proved that we still could not tell a Riesling from Müller-Thurgau but at least grasped the names of Germany's wine regions and the identities of their principal grapes.

So on Friday night the director of the academy, Dr Hans Ambrosi, was able to receive us in the candlelit cellars of Kloster Eberbach, and over a dinner of mountain trout, pork, ham, sausages and five wines, we were awarded a handsome diploma apiece. Then, as certified experts, we felt to the appreciation of five more "selected rarities". The last of these, I learned afterwards with awe, cost 550 Deutsch marks (£130) a bottle.

I put the price of the course, at £1,250 DM (£300) per person including all accommodation, meals, wines, lectures, tastings, visits and excursions, into rather a favourable perspective, I thought.

Travel notes: British Airways have scheduled flights to Frankfurt from £90 for a restricted tourist class return. Train connexions are available to Destrich-Winkel (change at Wiesbaden). The academy's 1982 programme and booking form, with six basic courses between May and October, is now available from Wines from Germany, 121 Gloucester Place, London W1H 3P. The price for 1982 is £1,550 DM (£314) per person, with a single room supplement of 95 DM (£22).

Pensioners' passes/George Speaight

Climb aboard the wagon

The facilities for half-price travel on British Rail for journeys or for return by a pensioner are well known, but it is not so widely known that similar advantages are available in many European countries for holders of the "Any Day" Senior Citizen Railcard.

The regulations governing this have been changed several times in recent years, but each change seems to extend the area covered and to increase the facilities. The present situation is as follows.

Holders of the British Senior Citizen £10 Railcard can obtain a 50 per cent reduction on their rail ticket for the British section of their journey (including boat trains) and in the following countries: Belgium, Holland, France, Luxembourg, Spain and Portugal. The return fare to Paris at present costs £30.50.

On a fortnight's winter sunshining on the French Riviera would cost £55.35 for the fare to Nice, but on the way there or back the un hurried traveller can pause at Paris for everything that Paris offers; at Lyons (taking the new fast train), the city of Guignol, for its Musée de Marionnette; at Orange for the superb Roman theatre; at Avignon, for the Palace of the Popes; at Arles, for the cloisters of St Trophime; at Marseilles, to dine on bouillabaisse. Stretch the journey to

return fare costs £30.50.

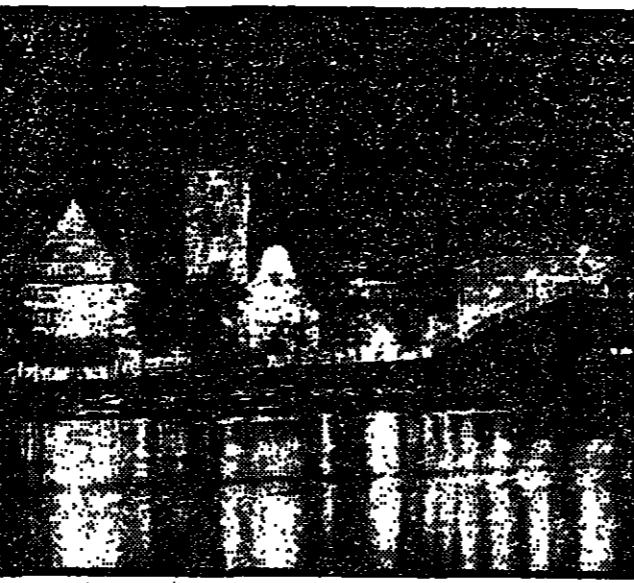
Cabins and sleepers are expensive, especially if the elderly traveller craves privacy, and may cost more than a bed in a hotel, but by breaking the journey what a range of great European cities lies on the route: Brussels, Aachen and Cologne.

Then there are the wine villages along the Rhine, any of them inviting the traveller to leave the train and sip a golden Rhenish wine.

Some of these journeys simply cry out for a return by a different route. This is not possible with the British Railcard, but it can be done by buying one of the Senior Citizen railcards issued by various European railways.

The simplest for British travellers to use is the French Carte Verte, which can be bought in Britain for £5. This can be shown at French railway stations for a 50 per cent reduction, but not at certain busy times (and do remember to cancel your ticket before getting on the train); and it can be used for the same reduction for tickets bought in Britain, when the restrictions on days of travel do not apply.

It can be a nice calculation whether the saving made justifies the cost of buying one of these national railcards, but with the exception of the French one, all become valid for journeys initiated only in the country of origin.



Night lights on the Moselle at Bernkastel-Kues, Germany.

Winter holiday discount news

Cosmos is cutting the price fare paying adults flying by air from all its January holidays in Portugal's Algarve.

For a family of four taking a two-week holiday in Miami Beach with Intasun, this offer could reduce the total to £199, and the choice of flight is left to the hands of the tour operator.

Similar deals appear in a variety of guises. Thomson calls them "square deals", Neilson coined the phrase "pricemelters", and Tropicana has settled on "sun-savers".

Thomson's "square deal" is the company's "ski super deal" scheme which produces savings on brochure prices of from £20 to £40. In this case the choice of resort as well as accommodation at a guaranteed minimum standard, or better, is left to the tour operator. The holiday maker's choice of resort is governed by the destination, airport selected, and wintersports insurance is included in the price.

Current "ski superdeals" include resorts in Switzerland, Austria, and Italy. By choosing Zurich airport, and specifying a Swiss resort, skiers can book a one week half-board holiday for £160.

Departures are from Luton and Gatwick on January 23 and 30, and the resorts covered are Grindelwald, Wengen and Murren.

Luton and Gatwick departures for Austria via Zurich cost £145 for one week half-board in Schruns, £104 for one week self-catering holidays at the company's French ski resorts for £176, a saving of £25.

Discounts on current brochure prices are also available on winter sun holidays offered by both British Airways' tour operators, Sovereign and Enterprise.

There are Gatwick and Manchester departures in January and February to a selection of resorts in Spain, Malta, Tunisia, Madeira, Italy and the Algarve. — S.C.P.

Tschagguns, Gastein, Brand or St. Anton.

The Italian version of this Thomson deal includes a ski pass in the price of the holiday, one week half board £135, and two weeks £199. Flights from Gatwick to Turin on January 14, 24, 31, and February 7 and 14, cover the resorts of Cervinia, Courmayeur, Claviere, Macugnaga, Sanze D'Oak and Bardonecchia.

British Airways Enterprise Holidays offers savings of £24 to £40 on Italian ski resorts, and again, the company chooses the resort.

Departures are from Garwick on January 24 and 31. Prices are £115 for one week's half-board, and £150 for two weeks. There are also one week self-catering holidays at the company's French ski resorts for £176, a saving of £25.

Discounts on current brochure prices are also available on winter sun holidays offered by both British Airways' tour operators, Sovereign and Enterprise.

There are Gatwick and Manchester departures in January and February to a selection of resorts in Spain, Malta, Tunisia, Madeira, Italy and the Algarve. — S.C.P.

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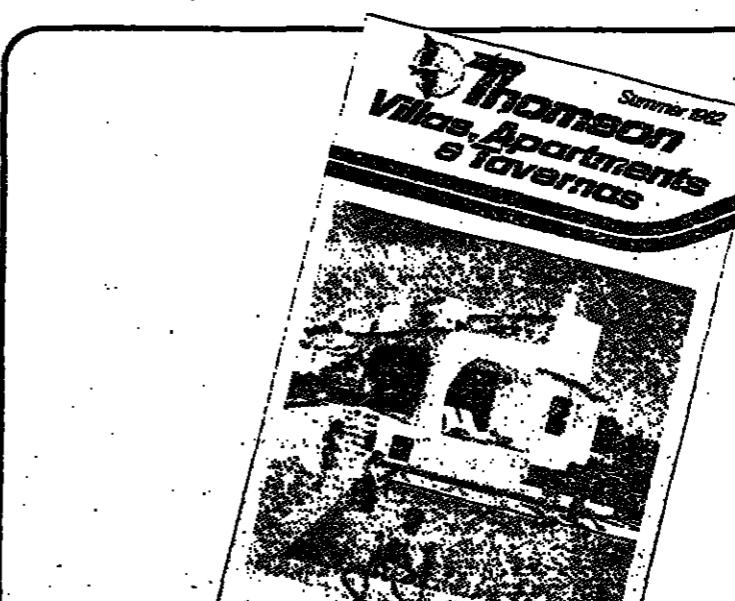
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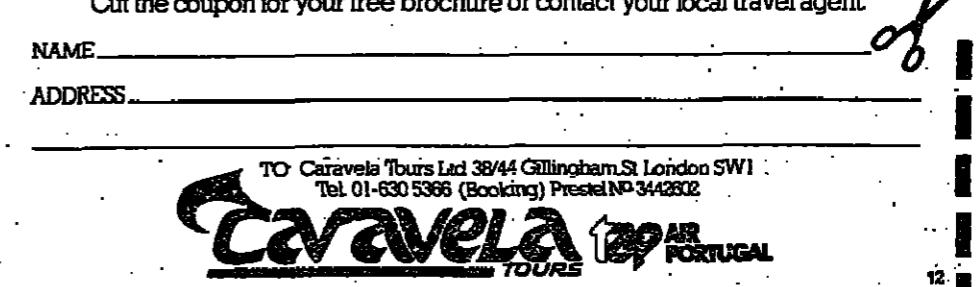
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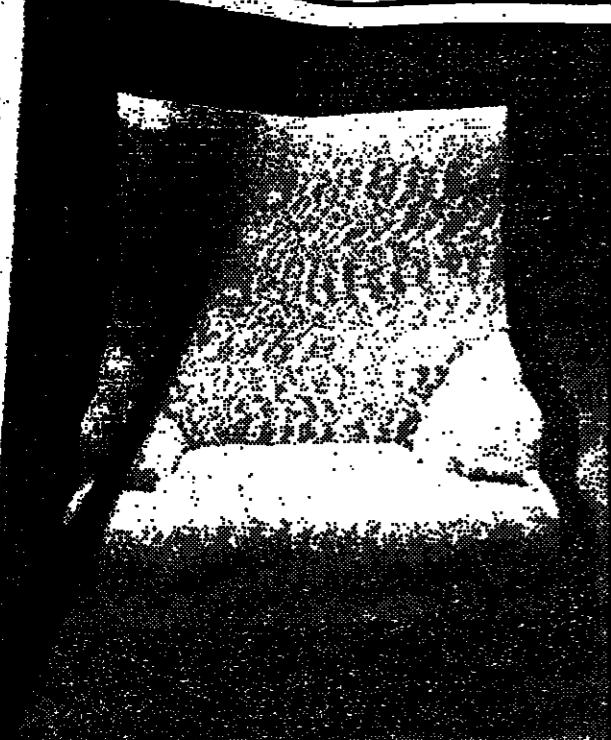
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SWAN HELLENIC

Shoparound

with Beryl Downing



Even the Italians, producers of some of the most adventurous modern furniture, are beginning to soften their lines. Above, a Rodica chair in rusty-brown leather, £462, with matching stool £182, at Vicoz Interiors, 36 Osnaburgh Street, NW1. Left, the Sinbad chair has "horse blanket" covers which can be removed for cleaning. Chair £566, separates covers from £156, red with blue border, yellow/black, green/red, dark blue/green or grey with any border. By Cassina at Heals. Other stockists from Cassina at Heals. Heath's Hall, Heath, Near Wakefield, Yorkshire, tel 0924-366446.

Time to design a revolution

Next week an exhibition opens in London called Design '82 — not, it has to be said, an entirely accurate title, as the 1,700 exhibits represent the Design Council's selections for the year that has just gone rather than a glimpse at what might be in store in the months to come.

Devoted as I am to the aims of the council, and in spite of the fact that the display includes all types of goods from photographic equipment and video to garden tools and travel goods, I can't help feeling that with such a title, a little crystal ball gazing would not have come amiss. Admittedly, short of coopting Paul Daniels on to the selection committee, they can't show what isn't there. But in addition to collecting together what has been, wouldn't it be interesting if the experts stuck out their necks and showed us the way things should be.

Last year, for instance, the council decided it could not make an award in the decorative consumer goods section. Yet that is the area which affects us all by having the most immediate impact on our surroundings. Wider appreciation of good design is more likely to be encouraged by the endorsement of a curtain fabric than by that of a sectional water tank, however important that may be to our wellbeing.

In fact, the outlook for 1982, says the council, is considerably brighter. The committee considering decorative consumer goods this year is "confidently predicting" a selection of award winners in this category.

"We are at a bit of a crossroads in this country where consumer goods design is concerned," says Keith Grant, director of the Design Council. "The nostalgic boom has coloured the past decade and has made some people feel that designers have lost their way. But if what is now being produced in the colleges of



Keith Grant

design is anything to go by we are going to have the possibility of some really new and exciting trends."

It is possible, though, to fire our manufacturing industries with enough enthusiasm to make the best use of this talent? They are not noted for quick recognition of the commercial potential of innovative design — but, to be fair, being traditionally dependent on a conservative British public for your profits does not encourage a particularly adventurous attitude.

But most manufacturers of domestic as well as industrial products should now be competing in wider European markets where good design is a major factor in all price categories and the message is coming over loud and clear from our successful exporters — design or die.

Keith Grant suggests that the immediate answer is to make use of the resources already there. "A lot of craft and technology is already taught in schools — home economics do related work, too. There is no reason why academic subjects like physics and maths should not be related to design, so that you get all sorts of people thinking about design at an early stage — the people who are one day going to run manufacturing industries.

"It would be unrealistic to imagine that any government can just create a new subject called 'design' overnight. What we need is fast evolution, rather than revolution."

And action rather than reaction.

Any happy mendings?

The cost of replacing anything these days is so alarming that more and more people are seeking the services of experts who can repair and renovate and make as good as new.

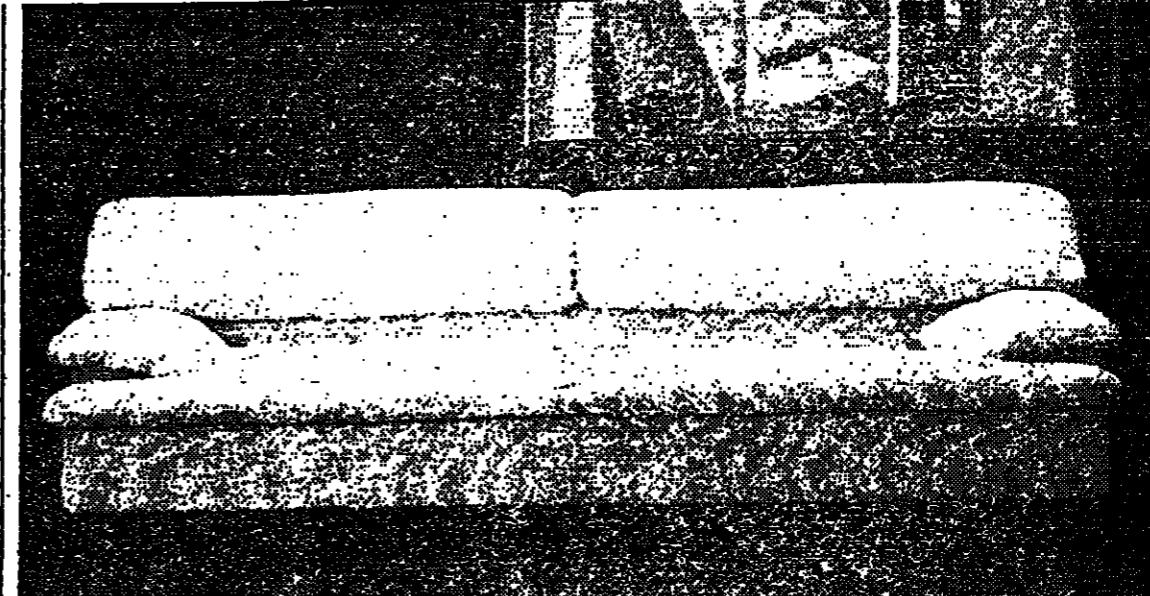
Next month Shoparound will include a nationwide guide to getting things mended, so if you know of anyone you consider accomplished at restoring anything from chinaware to furnishings to baths and tools, write to Shopping Guide, Room 116, The Times, PO Box 7, 200, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ.

Headmasters, local authorities and government have voiced approval. Mrs Thatcher has said that it is a matter of prime importance that design should be upgraded in schools. But the problem is not just one of money, or of speed. This is not the best political moment to try to convince a belt-tightened nation that investment in design is anything but pandering to the often suspect proclivities of an elated few. Try to advance the theory that good design equals more sales equals more employment and your audience will remain sceptical and demand proof.

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"It would be unrealistic to imagine that any government can just create a new subject called 'design' overnight. What we need is fast evolution, rather than revolution."

And action rather than reaction.



Five seater sofa with feather filled cushions by Collins and Hayes in a wide choice of covers.

For the romantically reclined

Collins and Hayes are one of the few remaining manufacturers of upholstered furniture to have survived the recession without a scuff. Not only are they working to full capacity, but are planning to extend a success story which owes a great deal to their ability to compete internationally on the basis of adventurous design plus impeccable quality.

Their design director, Alan Pledge, expects furniture in 1982 to become more "romantic" with curves and soft lines modifying the stark modern look — furniture was getting too boxy, he feels. Colours will be "adventurous pastels" and woven fabrics will be moving away from the tweedy look and into flat woven cottons and velvets and chenilles.

A forerunner of their 1982 designs is the Lotus sofa shown above — a five-seater sofa with soft feather filled cushions,

curved back and pillowed arms from £772 in a range of covers from pure wool to soft hide. Also in a three-seater version from £650. To order from Harrods; John Lewis; Rackhams, Birmingham; Fenwicks, Newcastle; Kendal Mine, Manchester and Cole Bros, Sheffield.

A new departure for Collins and Hayes will be based on the American idea of using co-ordinating patterns of varying sizes on the same piece of furniture — large patterns for the cushions, small ones on the backs, a third on the skirt. These will be introduced in the early summer.

The American style of furnishing, indeed, is likely to be a growing influence. Waring and Gillow are among the most enthusiastic supporters of American design and will be showing several ranges of what is known in the United States as "transitional" furniture — styles that

are somewhere between the classic and the modern.

In cabinet furniture these will include cream burr veneers and in upholstery delicately coloured tapestries, matelasses and raised weaves, all with a sophistication which will appeal, says Ian Bloom, director of furniture merchandise for Waring & Gillow & Maples, to those who want something modern but not too way out.

Whatever your style, the one thing America can certainly teach us is the production of easy care fabrics. They are producing all sorts of interesting textures for upholstery which need no more than a wipe to keep clean — not ordinary fabrics treated with Scotchguard, but with a built-in easy-care protection in the fibres used. Carry on grumbling — eventually we shall get them here, too.



French flannels do furnish a room

Tricia Guild's manipulation of colour for the fabrics she uses at Designers Guild, 271, King's Road, London SW3, is always worth studying. This year her feeling is still for softly muted colours, but with slightly less sweetness than in the last year. There will be a return to fawns, beiges and creams and a repeat of the colours which for most designers spells disaster, but for Tricia have been a runaway success — deep blues and lilacs.

There is a feeling for more formal and sophisticated designs," says Chris Halsey, Designers Guild technical director. "They will not be so obviously floral — having initiated the tiny print as long ago as 1974 we felt it was time to move away from the all-over look. We are introducing some really big-scale designs — enormous Chinese ginger jars, giant tea roses or huge overlapping maple leaves."

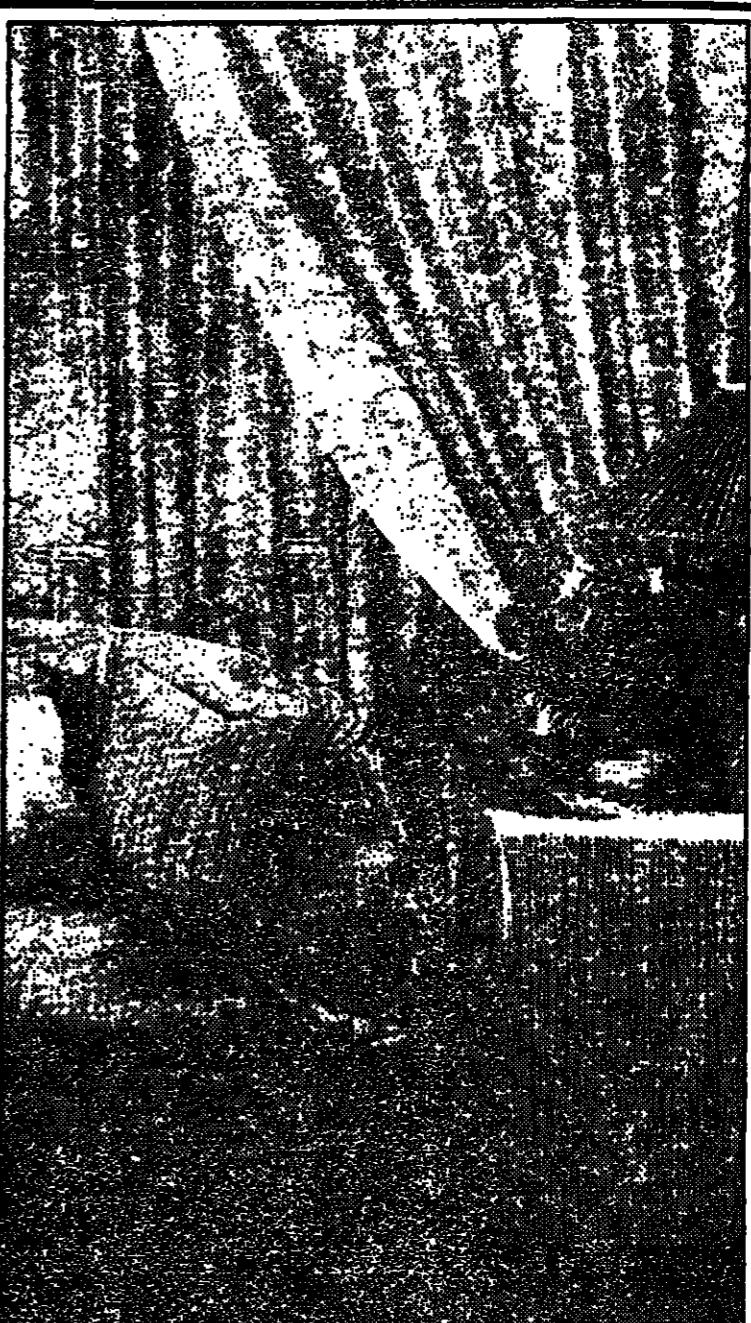
An interesting development by the French company Tissunique is a collection of upholstery flannels. Two are available now at Liberty's — a grey flannel with a large multi-coloured check, called Coventry, and another with

small checks in five colourways called Derby. Both are in 80 per cent wool, 20 per cent polyamide, 150cm wide at around £21.85 a metre.

Two more are to come in late February. Cambridge will be a plain flannel, slightly lighter weight and in 49 colours — it would be ideal for making fabric wallcoverings to match with upholstery. This will also be around £21.85 a metre. Albany will be a striped flannel in four colourways at around £27.

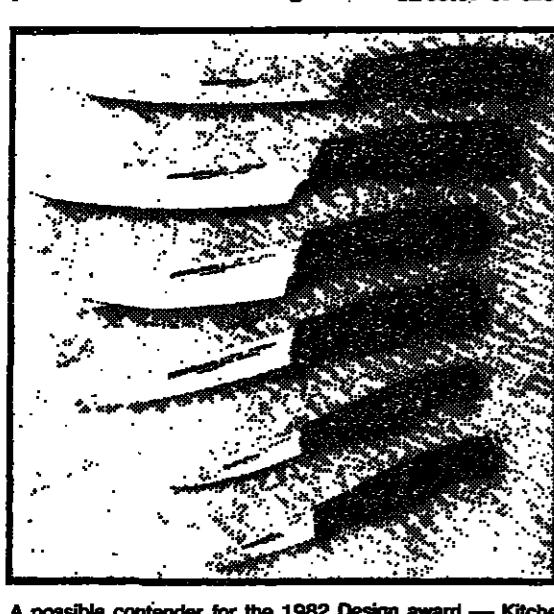
Tissunique's latest collection also includes some delightful designs for children's rooms, including a procession of rotary coloured geese in royal blue and yellow, salmon pink and olive or beige and brown or an arrangement of stylized poppies with zebra nesting in them. Both designs are on cotton and would make amusing duvet covers with perhaps coordinating blinds. They are 125cm wide, about £10.

Tissunique fabrics are available at many interior design shops, as well as at Liberty's, Regent Street, London W1. For local stockists ring 01-491 3386.



Above: New large-scale printed cottons from Designers Guild — Carpet Leaf (on sofa) £11 a metre, China Pot (behind sofa) £14.50, Tee Rose (draped) £21.85. Tossie irregular stripes, Streamline (on table) £9.50. All in rose, apricot, beige or blue.

Above left: Zebras in Poppies — one of Tissunique's new furnishing cottons. In a mixture of white, green, red and black, £10 per metre.



One of the 1,700 products selected by the Design Centre last year and shown in their Design '82 exhibition at 28 Haymarket, SW1, from January 13 to February 27. Coffee pot £12.75, sugar bowl £2.50, coffee cup £1.90, saucer £1. Called Cinnamon by Hornsea Pottery in rust and cream, available in the Design Centre shop.

The Times cook/Shona Crawford Poole Smooth fish dishes

The trouble with a good cliche, of the culinary kind anyway, is that it is so darned useful. Look at smoked fish pate — it is such an agreeably ideal first course that one meets little pots of the stuff all over the place.

No doubt this sort of popularity is inevitable when a widely liked taste coincides so neatly with simple preparation, modest cost and no last minute fuss. It is this predictability that dampens interest, so this week's next is "variations on the cliché".

Real smoked haddock, (the kind sold only on the bone, and which looks very pale beside brightly dyed golden fillets), makes a marvellous terrine. Layers of light smoked haddock mousse-line are interspersed with prawns so that the cooked terrine cuts into beguilingly striped slices.

The smoked salmon mousse makes the most of offcuts which are much less pricey than perfect, thin slices. The trimmings are often sold in tins, which are although light textured, this mousse is rich and very satisfying, so serve small quantities. It can be offered in individual dishes with a pestle and mortar, or in slices of smoked salmon and accompanied by a few leaves of crisp salad.

Chop the raw smoked

haddock into large dice and

puree it in a food processor, or with a pestle and mortar.

Work in the egg whites, a

little at a time, then the

panada. Rub the mixture through a sieve. Cover the bowl and chill it very thoroughly. The traditional way of chilling the purée, which is a necessary process if it is to take up enough cream to make a really light mousse-line, is to set the bowl in a larger bowl of crushed ice, and then put everything in the fridge.

When the fish mixture is thoroughly chilled, work in the cream, a little at a time, first with a wooden spoon, then as the mixture loosens, with a whisk. Add salt to taste. Keep the mixture, which is now a panada, well chilled throughout this process. If either the weather or the kitchen is very warm, add the cream in three or four stages, returning the mousse-line to the fridge between additions.

Put the butter in a small saucepan with the milk and heat until the butter has melted. Bring the mixture to the boil, then set it aside to cool, hot, until it thickens. Continue cooking it gently, beating now with a wooden spoon, until the mixture leaves the sides of the pan. Set this panada aside.

Sift the flour and pepper into a bowl. Make a well in the centre, add the egg yolks and mix well. Gradually stir in the hot milk. Transfer the mixture to the panada, whisk on low heat until it thickens. Continue cooking it gently, beating now with a wooden spoon, until the mixture leaves the sides of the pan. Set this panada aside.

Cover the terrine with buttered foil, or its lid, and set it in a larger dish. Transfer both to a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) and pour boiling

water into the larger dish,

and in sampling, remained

lovers to add something to their library. Here are three new, rather unusual books of interest, which might be studied with a glass, or something appropriate, at the elbow. (Possibly decanting the wine that these whose business is fine food and wines seldom get much encouragement by way of "honours" in the UK.)

The ponderous and lavishly illustrated second edition of *André Simon's Wine of the World*, by Serafino Sculifffe (Macdonald, £17.50) might easily titillate; it might have been helpful to young wine lovers to explain who André was, instead of giving much space to unexciting, sometimes awkwardly phrased articles and statistics, not always up to date. A curate's egg of a book, certainly to be bought if you already have some wine reference works, but not likely to make anyone begin to love wine.

As some freshening up during perusal might seem desirable, an Australian white, agreeably named Wirra Wirra Rhine Riesling, from R. G. and R. T. Trotter in South Australia would be ideal. The 1979 has a light, penetrating bouquet, is slightly lively on the palate, opening to a full, almost "chewy" flavour.

Spoon it into individual

serving dishes, or one large

dish, and chill to set.

Puree the salmon in a food processor or by pounding it in a pestle and mortar. Sprinkle the gelatine on the water and when it has swollen, heat gently until the prawns follow by half the quantity, have dissolved completely. Stir the gelatine into the salmon puree.

Whip the cream until it holds soft peaks and fold it into the puree. Stir in the cognac and sherry and season with salt and cayenne pepper to taste.

Spoon it into individual

serving dishes, or one large

dish, and chill to set.

Drink/Pamela Vandyke Price Information to imbibe

created for Britons by the slightly charred, tantalizing aroma and the added delectable freshness of the high vineyards in the beautiful island, endowing the wine with notes of apple mint and citrus. Sniff the empty glass — and that of the dry Marsala — to enjoy the lingering, concentrated smell. This is not an obviously sweet wine, although it is a rich one and would be a fine conclusion to a meal along with the dessert and nuts.

(£2.95 from Lay & Wheeler, Culver Street, Colchester; their other shop in Colchester, also in Keddies in Southend, Romford and Colchester.)

Lay & Wheeler's latest wine list is a front runner for the most handsome and comprehensive of recent times, but it must yield for elegance to Christie's Wine Companion (£9.50 or, by post, £10.50 from Christie's Wine Publications, 8 King St, St James', SW1). The articles vary from providing valuable information, recounting fascinating experiences and wry comments on many aspects of wine and the illustrations are delicious.

Even if I were not a contributor, this would have been my first choice for a book that delights the eye as well as pleasing the intelligence — for the bedside study, or to give to anyone not yet aware of how much fun the study of wine can be.

Note the odd "greenery gallery" edge to the colour,

الآن من الأصل

Bridge/Jeremy Flint In praise of a master

The Lederer Memorial tournament, admirably staged by the LCCBA at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club last month, remains the only competition limited to top class British players. It is an honour to take part, let alone win. Once known as the Richard Lederer Memorial, it was shortened in the 1970s to commemorate the sad and untimely death of Tony, Lederer's immensely popular son.

H Reese, Gray, Schapiro and Marx were names to conjure with in the 1940s; it was Richard Lederer who dominated the years before the war. Perhaps he reached the pinnacle of his career in the last Schwab Trophy. For half the match, he established a marked ascendancy over the omnipotent Culbertson to lead by 3,000 points. The more experienced Americans made a good recovery to win without disturbing the impression that Lederer was the man of the match.

It is fitting that the competition which bears his name should always attract a high class field.

The scoring, a combination of point a board and IMPs, is popular with the experts because clever touches on the small part score bands receive proper recognition. This year a strong Scottish team amassed a useful lead in the first session. The new partnership of Coyle and Schenkin worked well, with Coyle supplying Prince Rupert's dash and Schenkin Culbertson's rugged tenacity.

Surprisingly, no North-South pair managed to bid a slam on the hand. The Lederer Memorial Trophy, IMPs with Point-a-Board. Game all. Dealer West.

642 1055
2 2 Q J 10
4 K 3
VAQ 532
W E
S 4 K 7
4 Q 2
4 10 5
V 7 4
9 3 5 4
4 10 5 4

This was the bidding in the match between Scotland and the eventual winners, Young England.

(1) The two Diamond opening bid was the "multicoloured" two Diamond, a weapon which, to the annoyance of the "call a spade a spade" brigade, has been adopted by many of the leading players. The bid can have several meanings. Usually it is a weak two bid in one of the majors, but it can show a powerful hand with a 4441 distribution.

(2) The choice of slam try is a matter of style. The objection to four Clubs is that it does not offer any other suit except spades as the final denomination. On this hand 11 tricks are the limit with spades as trumps. 650 to Scotland.

There was an unusual point in the play on this next hand, which all six teams played in four Spades.

Board 13. Game all. Dealer South.

642 1055
2 2 Q J 10
4 K 3
VAQ 532
W E
S 4 K 7
4 Q 2
4 10 5
V 7 4
9 3 5 4
4 10 5 4

(1) The Baron, 2NT response, which used to describe strong balanced hands (Forrester and Armstrong employ an added refinement whereby 2NT specifically denotes a hand with:

(2) a cipher showing five diamonds.

(3) Accepting spades as the trump suit, and showing a club control bids.

(4) Assuming certainly cannot be accused of lack of enterprise.

(5) Offering an alternative denomination.

Despite the slender combined values, the slam is a fair proposition. Provided the spades and the diamonds are divided three-two, declarer can make 13 tricks. If the diamonds are four-one, the heart finesse is needed to make 12 tricks. It is only when the spades are four-one that declarer is sure to be defeated.

L. Tario and M. Wlodarczyk, Duckworth and Price, and Simpson and Hoffman also bid the slam, which confirms the dictum that to win the Lederer it is not enough to be good, you must also be brave.

The final result was: 1. Young England — A. Forrester, J. Armstrong, B. Mervis, G. Calderwood, R. Smolki, J. Collings (292 VPs); 2. the Holders, C. Dixon, P. Jourdain, T. Martin, V. Silvesterone, P. Alder, J. Reardon (261 VPs).

The Scots fell away badly in the second session, losing both their matches. When

play resumed on Sunday afternoon, Young England had established a good lead. This hand arose in the critical match between the leaders and the Scots, who despite their slide on Saturday evening, remained in second place.

Game all. Dealer North.

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VAQ 532
W E
S 4 K 7
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V 7 4
9 3 5 4
4 10 5 4

The Scots were content to play the hand in four Spades. This is the winner's accurate if elaborate sequence:

West North East South
Armstrong ... 10 ...
No 32(3) ...
No 44(2) ...
No No ...
No No ...

The two Diamond opening bid was the "multicoloured" two Diamond, a weapon which, to the annoyance of the "call a spade a spade" brigade, has been adopted by many of the leading players.

The bid can have several meanings. Usually it is a weak two bid in one of the majors, but it can show a powerful hand with a 4441 distribution.

The Scots were content to play the hand in four Spades. This is the winner's accurate if elaborate sequence:

West North East South
Forrester ... 10 ...
No 24(2) ...
No 34 ...
No No ...
No No ...

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S 4 K 7
4 Q 2
4 10 5
V 7 4
9 3 5 4
4 10 5 4

The two Diamond opening bid was the "multicoloured" two Diamond, a weapon which, to the annoyance of the "call a spade a spade" brigade, has been adopted by many of the leading players.

The bid can have several meanings. Usually it is a weak two bid in one of the majors, but it can show a powerful hand with a 4441 distribution.

The Scots were content to

play the hand in four Spades. This is the winner's accurate if elaborate sequence:

West North East South
Forrester ... 10 ...
No 24(2) ...
No 34 ...
No No ...
No No ...

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Stock Exchange Prices

ACCOUNT DAYS - Dealings Begin Monday, Dealings End Jan 22 & Contango Day, Jan 25, Settlement Day, Feb 1.

6 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Business News

THE TIMES SATURDAY JANUARY 9 1982.

Protection for
no claims
bonus, page 19

Gill set to sue ACC over payoff

By Philip Robinson
Mr Jack Gill, dismissed managing director of Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation, is considering suing ACC for damages even though it could mean him getting less than the £560,000 cash golden handshake which has caused a storm of protest in the City.

It is understood that under an agreement between ACC and Mr Gill, drawn up shortly after his sudden departure last September after 23 years service, a shareholders' meeting to approve the deal should have been held last Friday and the money released by now. The meeting was held yesterday, and adjourned for a week without voting on the payout.

Sir David Napley, Mr Gill's lawyer, said last night: "The shareholders' approval should have been given by now. ACC are in breach of their agreement with Mr Gill and I will be considering over the weekend whether to institute proceedings on Monday against ACC for damages."

Sir David said that as Mr Gill did not wish to leave ACC voluntarily he left under an agreement which gave him £560,000 for loss of office and that had now been breached. Any action taken by Mr Gill against ACC could mean him being awarded less than that which is being proposed at present.

Any action by Mr Gill would not be inconsistent with the legal action being taken by a number of ACC's non-voting shareholders led by the Post Office Pension Fund to stop the payment.

The hearing of the Post Office petition, now backed by ten other City institutions, is due before Mr Justice Slade on Monday morning. It is thought likely that the petition hearing will be adjourned until February, but that the court will grant an interim injunction preventing any money being paid to Mr Gill until the full case has been heard.

ACC's special shareholders' meeting sought to approve the £560,000 payment and the option for Mr Gill to buy the company house in which he lived for £100,000 less than its valuation.

Lord Grade who was chairman at the packed meeting of voting and non-voting shareholders at the group's west London headquarters, said the meeting adjourned because the Post Office Pension Fund is asking the court to quash any resolution passed at the meeting.

This followed an undertaking given on Thursday by ACC to the Post Office group that no payment would be made to Mr Gill.

Mr Ralph Quartano, chief executive of the Post Office pension fund said after the meeting: "We will take this action to the very end. We will not enter into actions lightly and once one enters one does not withdraw lightly."

"We shall be asking for all the background to Mr Gill's resignation. The company has said the payment is substantially in excess of what a court would award,"

Investors to pay more to brokers

By Paul Maidment

Private investors on the Stock Exchange will have to pay higher charges because of new scales for stockbrokers' commissions announced yesterday. This will mean an average rise of 1.3 per cent in brokers' income, though there will be little change for institutions through a concession on gilt switching.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, the council's chairman, who presented the Exchange's first big review of commission charges since the last adjustment in 1976, said there would be an increase in commission charges on small transactions while commissions on larger transactions would remain broadly the same. The main concession would be on gilt switching.

The minimum charge proposed rises to £10, against £7 at present. The fee on share transactions between £2,000 and £7,000 would rise from 1.5 per cent to 1.75 per cent, an increase of 16.7 per cent.

At the other end of the scale, the rate on transactions over £3m remains unchanged at 0.17 per cent.

The new scales also reflect the increasing volume of business in the exchange in government securities.

The review shows that the turnover in equities has risen over the three years to February 1981 from £61m to £102m, while gilt rose from £210m to £516.

In real terms, turnover in gilts rose by 21 per cent, against a fall of 18 per cent for equities.

Government waives Invergordon loan

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Repayment of Government loans to British Aluminium totalling £21.2m has been waived by the Department of Industry under the deal which led to the company's controversial decision to close its Scottish smelting plant at Invergordon in the Highlands.

This was disclosed yesterday when the company gave further details of the financial arrangements agreed with the Government and with Scottish electricity supply agencies.

Acrimony over the closure decision continues and the shadow Scottish Secretary, Mr Bruce Millan, Labour MP for Clacton and Opposition Spokesman, has pledged that the Opposition will continue to fight for the 900 jobs that will be lost.

British Aluminium originally said it would provide further information in March when the company, which is 58 per cent owned by Tube Investments, publishes its annual report and accounts.

When the closure was announced at the end of last month the company provided only a brief summary of the financial arrangements hammered out in talks with

the Scottish Office, the Treasury, the Department of Industry and the North of Scotland Hydro Electricity Board.

Yesterday's statement was published less than 24 hours after a meeting in London between Mr Ronald Utiger, chairman of British Aluminium, and Mr Alex Fletcher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Scottish Office. After the meeting both men said there was no basis for the company to continue to operate the smelter.

In its statement the company said that when the power contract with the hydro-electricity board was ended which provided for power to be supplied from the board's Hunterston 'B' station until the end of this century, British Aluminium had "returned" its share of the capacity of the station to the Scottish electricity boards.

The company said it was entitled to the residual value of these rights, which had been agreed at £79.3m. From this sum £47m has been deducted, reflecting the value of disputed power charges pending at the time of the closure decision.

The company said its Fiesta, with 10,753 sales, scored a narrow victory over the Metro's 11,283. BL is to raise the price of its Rover and Morris Ital ranges by about 4% from Monday.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Sit-in cost 600 jobs

More than 400 workers who occupied the Dunlop factory in Brynmawr, South Wales, to gain assurances over their future were told yesterday that the plant will close permanently because of their action. They and another 200 will lose their jobs.

The sit-in started four weeks ago after the company told workers that 60 jobs would have to go at the plant, which produces tiles. Mr George Howard, a transport union official whose members led the action, said the company had also been seeking another 200 redundancies.

"We had already suffered

the electorate would quickly see through any pale imitation of left-wing industrial democracy proposals, especially if in practice they were to mean trade union nominees sitting on company boards". Mr Goldsmith says.

Instead, the Government should take the cutting of income tax and appropriate pay rises for workers in companies where productivity and profitability have shown increases as its theme.

Brewery cut

Truman the brewer is to make 80 workers redundant at its bottling plant at West Bergholt, Essex. The cuts are blamed on the recession and falling sales of bottled beer.

Trusthouse Forte has bought 95 per cent of Madrid's Ritz Hotel for £1.2m. Mr Enrique Maso is not replaced, according to a report prepared at the re-

Morton to lead Guinness Peat

By Sally White

The row at Guinness Peat appears to be over. The board has announced that the Mr Edmund Dell is stepping down as chief executive in favour of Mr Alistair Morton, the former British National Oil Corporation chief. The indications are that this solution is acceptable to Lord Kissin, who will now drop his plans for a partial bid for the group.

Mr Dell is to remain as chairman of Guinness Peat, the banking commodity and industrial group which is expected to announce very dreary first half profit figures next month. The news came out after the Stock Market had closed, but the shares dropped 3p to 90p during the day.

Mr Morton said last night that he is to see Lord Kissin this weekend. He has been authorized by the board to "settle Lord Kissin's future relationship with the group."

The row has been building up for more than a year, and Lord Kissin has been pressing hard for Mr Dell's removal from the steering role in the group. He disliked the strategy of selling off parts of the group — stakes in Linfield, Esperanza and Greycourt Properties) to raise cash. Group central borrow-



Mr Alistair Morton: acceptable solution

ings are not anywhere near the £120m rumoured. They are nearer to half that, but are growing.

Mr Morton said last night that he "would very much like to be able to continue to call on Lord Kissin's as a consultant. The board would certainly like him to continue to be president."

As to his plans for the

future development of Guinness Peat. There seems to be no chance at the moment for any bidders for Guinness Mahon, or any other parts of the group. Mr. Morton says he is a man "who likes to build things up." No subsidiaries will be sold unless it is absolutely necessary.

He left BNOC last year when Mr Philip Shielbourne was appointed to the top job. The two men had previously worked at the Drayton Group and had been known to have had many disagreements.

UK role blamed by De Lorean

Mr John De Lorean, head of the Belfast car company which bears his name, yesterday put part of the blame for the failure of his company's Wall Street flotation on the British Government, which has ploughed £80m into the firm.

Mr De Lorean's plan to raise £6.2m by selling a million shares of the De Lorean Motor Company were postponed on Wednesday because of adverse market conditions.

The company wants the cash for the development of a scaled-down version of the gull-winged sports car. It now says that if it does not get an immediate £26m export guarantee from the British Government production of the cars will have to be cut.

Mr De Lorean says the group needs more working capital and has begun talks with unnamed prospective buyers to sell or merge the car group to give it financial stability.

He said of the offer: "We missed the window in time. The (British) Government insisted on being involved with the public offering and that delayed it by two and a half months.

"We started preparing the offer last June and there was a time in July and August



John De Lorean: "We missed the boat"

when it could have succeeded, but we could not get the agreement completed and we missed the boat. We told them this would happen."

Most of the talks with the British Government about the offer were with the Northern Ireland Development Agency. Mr De Lorean added: "I sent a number of wires probably six to various people saying there was a good chance the offering would not succeed unless we proceeded quickly."

He disclosed that sales of the car had been seriously affected by bad publicity surrounding allegations of financial irregularities made by a former employee last year, even though they were later disproved.

"The allegations were front-page news," he said. "The exonerations were page 99 news." The affair had contributed to Wall Street's rebuff.

The company will continue to own a nationwide network composed of the franchise services and the inter-city facilities of the local operating companies.

ANTI-TRUST ACTION DROPPED

From Frank Lippus, New York, Jan 8

The United States Government has dropped its long and costly anti-trust suit against the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, the world's largest non-government corporation.

The Administration has been seeking to break up the company since 1974, accusing it of monopolizing the telecommunications industry. The case went to court in Washington last year but since then the Government and the company have been in negotiation.

The Justice Department said that the company would now undertake an 18-month reorganization and divest itself of its local telephone subsidiaries.

The company will continue to own a nationwide network composed of the franchise services and the inter-city facilities of the local operating companies.

Third World faces rising bank fees

Borrowers from the World Bank face higher interest charges if discussions within the bank lead to it making floating rate loans instead of the traditional fixed rate loans. Most of the bank's customers are developing countries.

Mr Tom Clausen, the World Bank President, said yesterday: "Today's volatile market conditions are forcing us to consider whether we should introduce a degree of variability into our lending rates, as well as whether we should tap the more plentiful short term market."

But the move would also have profound implications for the Euromarkets, on which the World Bank is one of the biggest borrowers, and by which it is regarded as being almost free of risk.

The move comes because of the difficulty of raising money in contemporary circumstances of interest rate volatility.

After borrowing \$4.160m in the six months to the end of December, the bank needs to meet its loan commitments for the financial year to June 30. It expects, moreover, to need \$9.000m in 1982-3 and perhaps \$10.000m in the following year.

Third World customers were told this week that they will have to pay a front-end fee of 1.5 per cent on new loans. The measure was designed to offset a possible income medium-term fall caused by interest and exchange rate fluctuations.

Mr Clausen also told borrowers that the bank is studying ways in which loans

could be repaid faster. He admitted that such combined changes would make it more difficult for some countries to borrow at the present fixed rates which are below the market. Only the poorest countries will still enjoy interest-free credit.

The bank claims that none of its borrowers has ever defaulted, but the aid institution has attracted criticism from America, its biggest shareholder, where it is argued that some customers pursue policies contrary to American interests.

President Reagan's Administration has delayed part of its contribution to the International Development Association, an arm of the bank which makes long term interest-free loans.

Washington believes that private banks should participate in World Bank lending. The bank is examining the legality of joint loans with American insurance companies and pension funds.

The bank's loan commitments have coincided with increased political pressure and highly volatile money markets. The Euromarkets in particular were thrown into confusion by soaring interest rates.

after a fall in American interest rates over the past few weeks there are renewed fears among bankers that a large United States Federal government deficit coupled with a tight money policy could impart another upward twist to the interest rate spiral.

Central bank governors will discuss this problem at the monthly meeting.

9.5m in US out of work

Unemployment in the United States rose to 9.5 million or 8.9 per cent of the work force in December.

The adjusted figure was second only since the Second World War to 9 per cent in May 1975.

Last month's figures compared with unemployment rates of 9 million or 8.4 per cent in November and 8 per cent in October.

The number of jobless increased 5.1 per cent or 458,000 in December after rising 5.7 per cent or 484,000 in November.

The department said it

considered a public offer of shares had been the best way to ensure a fair price

Club sale completed

Playboy Enterprises announced last night that the sale of the Playboy Club of London and its subsidiaries has been completed with Trident Television.

There is still doubt over whether Admiral Sir John Treacher, brought in last year to replace the flamboyant Mr Victor Lownes to run the London casino, will depart as part of the deal.

Trident made no statement on Sir John's position

Tunnel plea

Channel Tunnel Developments (1981), a consortium made up of Wimpey and Tarmac, has called on the Government to "be bold and draw up a short list of three" from the eight contenders for the contract to build the tunnel. The contenders also include British Rail and British Steel. The consortium

believe time and money could be saved with a short list.

Yesterday the company

warned that it will assert its rights to prevent anyone using such equipment in with

Decca Navigator systems.

The service we have received at

Greenock is second to none in Europe.

Because of the cost of inland haulage and the fuel cost of steaming to the Clyde, however, we have reluctantly transferred our service."

—

Homes increase

There were 42,800 housing starts in the three months to November, a 3 per cent increase on the previous quarter, and 18 per cent more than the same period last year, according to the latest Department of the Environment figures. In November work started on 13,800 homes, 2,400 more than in the same month a year ago.

released yesterday by British

Business the magazine of the Departments of Trade and

Industry.

—

Bankers are still hoping for an early agreement on rescheduling Poland's \$2,400m debt repayments due last year. But they did not

continue Thursday's meeting into yesterday as had been

expected.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Insurance

Women take action to earn equal benefits

The Prudential, the country's largest insurance company has been forced to stop discriminating against women over permanent health insurance benefits following a court case in London yesterday. Mrs Valerie Turner, a 40 year old company secretary from Sheffield took the Pru to court, with the backing of the Equal Opportunities Commission, when she discovered that its Personal Protection Policy gave women claimants only £5 a week benefit for each £1,000 of income insured while men paying the same premiums picked up £10.

"I took action because I thought this was unfair. I have several other policies with the Prudential. I hope this encourages other women to fight for equal treatment." Mrs Turner commented after the hearing.

The Prudential has agreed to pay £500 damages and a further £300 costs. It has given an undertaking that all future claims under the policy would treat women in the same way as men — paying them the full £10.

But while this is good news for the 1,000 women policy holders covered by the plan it is a pyrrhic victory for the Equal Opportunities Commission, which is still itching to get a full dress test case on permanent wealth policies into the courts.

The man from the Pru is no gentleman. The company has already withdrawn the offending policy from the market. In its place there is a new contract which charges female policyholders a third more for the same amount of benefit.



Mrs Valerie Taylor

Virtually every insurance company loads the premiums for women on this type of policies. If Mrs. Turner now wants to buy one she will like the rest of us, have to pay anything between a quarter and a half more than a man of the same age and category. The insurance companies say women have a worse health record than men. Therefore, they claim, they have good reason to charge higher premiums.

The Sex Discrimination Act allows discrimination if there is a good reason for it. But the Equal Opportunities Commission, in common with other organisations, is challenging this assumption.

"We would very much like to see their reasons demonstrated in a court of law," says EOC spokesperson Dai Trembath. But the insurance companies have so far shown a marked reluctance for a full frontal fight. The Prudential gave in.

Margaret Drummond

COMPARISON

£20,000 loan over 20 years for male age 45	
Low Cost Endowment Plan	£ 265.34
Interest on loan at 15.5%	Interest on loan at 15.75%
Life assurance premium (less tax relief at 15%)	43.26
	301.60
Less: Tax relief at 60% on mortgage interest	155.00
NET MONTHLY OUTLAY	£146.60
Cash surplus at maturity (after 20 years)	£4,134
Pension	£6,004

House purchase Benefiting people who pay more tax

A new housepurchase scheme put together by Leamington Spa Building Society and Scottish Provident offers considerable savings for self-employed people who pay higher rates of tax.

Instead of using the more usual endowment linked method where a with-profits life policy is used as security for the loan, Scottish Provident has linked the scheme to a with-profits pension policy. The advantage of this is that premiums on the pension policy are eligible for full tax relief at the highest rate paid, anything between 30 and 60 per cent, whereas life policies only attract relief at 15 per cent.

The self-employed can benefit from this new package, also members of partnerships, and employees if they are not members of an occupational scheme. Clearly the higher the rate of tax paid, the greater the benefit.

The package, believed to be the first of its kind, includes

term assurance which provides lump sum to repay the loan should the borrower die during the terms of the mortgage.

Leamington Spa is charging 0.25 per cent more for a pension linked loan but is prepared to consider a mortgage term longer than the standard 20 or 25 years.

With the normal endowment linked method, the loan is repaid with the proceeds of the life policy when it matures. Scottish Provident's pension linked scheme provides the cash to repay the loan out of the lump-sum contributed premium benefits which policyholders are able to take at retirement age.

Scottish Provident quotes as example a 45 year old man who takes a 20 year mortgage of £20,000. Under the low-cost endowment method he would pay the interest on his loan (around 15% per cent from Leamington Spa) plus a life premium of £51 a month before tax relief, or £43 after tax relief.

With the pension linked scheme he pays interest on the loan (plus an extra 0.25 per cent-15% per cent) and monthly pension premiums of £85 before tax relief. But for a 60 per cent taxpayer the net pension premium comes down to only £34 a month, or £42.50 for those who pay tax at 50 per cent. Tax relief is allowable on the mortgage interest in both cases.

In addition the pension linked scheme would produce a pension on retirement of £6,000 a year for the rest of the policyholder's life, whereas the endowment method would show a cash surplus of only £4,000.

The scheme looks ideal for high earning professional people like barristers, solicitors and accountants who can be fairly certain of continuing to pay tax at the higher rates. Presumably it is only a matter of time before other insurance companies follow suit.

Lorna Bourke

The Times — Money Programme Unit Trust Competition
Can you beat the investment experts and pick the top performing unit trust for 1982? One hundred pounds worth of unit trusts and the chance to air your views on investment on television is the prize. See how the professional advisers go about making their choice on BBC2 TV's Money Programme, tomorrow at 6.30 pm.



Paul Harwood, Peter Hayes, Peter Edwards and Jamie Berry investment experts who advise private clients on unit trusts

Can you beat the investment gurus?

How often have you watched investment experts making their predictions and felt you could do better? This week we launch *The Times* Unit Trust Competition in conjunction with the Money Programme on BBC2 Television in which you are offered a chance to beat the investment gurus as they appear on the programme.

It is high time these claims and counter claims were aired in court. Then we will all discover the answer to a puzzling question. If women are supposed to be so unhealthy how is it that they are expected to live, on average, seven years longer than a man?

It is high time these claims and counter claims were aired in court. Then we will all discover the answer to a puzzling question. If women are supposed to be so unhealthy how is it that they are expected to live, on average, seven years longer than a man?

An officer of the Prudential admitted yesterday "one reason why women seem to spend more time away from work could be that their own game and if you win, appear otherwise."

Nearly 1,800 people have investments in unit trusts worth a total of £5,800m and during 1981, more than £500m worth of units were sold. But how many of these investors choose the trusts themselves, and do they have any idea how their investments will fare in 1982?

Experts are split into three categories — general, under eighteen and a special category, professional advisers, for those who earn their living advising on investments.

Winners in each category will receive £100 worth of units in the unit trust of their choice, and there will be prizes for the runners up. In addition, the prizewinners will attend a lunch where they will meet the experts, and receive their awards, and will be invited to explain on the Money Programme how they made their choices.

Entry forms will be published in *The Times* family finance pages for the next two Saturdays — 16 and

January 23, or are obtainable from the Money Programme. Full details are published below and you can see the four experts tomorrow on the Money Programme at 6.30pm talking about their choices.

To make things easier, we will also be publishing performance figures showing how individual unit trust have fared over the past one, two and three years. These will be compiled by *Planned Savings Magazine* and will be used as the basis for calculating the best performing unit trust in 1982.

They show the value at January 4, 1982 of £100 invested over the past 12, 24 and 36 months. Any income from the trusts is calculated as being reinvested in more units and this should be taken into account when making your choice.

How did the experts go about things? "We are looking for two things — to buy cheap so that by the end of the year we have the best possible chance of capital growth. And we don't want to get too deeply involved in the currency side," Peter Hayes of Premier Unit Trust Managers said.

"I think 1982 will be another year when overseas stockmarkets perform better than our own," Jamie Berry of Berry Asset Management says.

"The United States economy which began to recover in the Autumn of 1981 will continue on an

upward trend in 1982 — which should particularly benefit smaller companies."

But Peter Hayes of Planinvest has a different view. Australia — I would imagine a good number of people will choose this market and I believe it will come right in 1982."

Peter Harwood of Richards Longstaff thinks "it will be a small specialist fund that will perform best during the year". He prefers a large sector and thinks the United States is the place to be in 1982.

"Currencies will not play an important part in 1982," he believes.

Clearly, with very little agreement between the experts the outcome is far from clear cut. In conclusion, anyone has a chance of winning. Do not forget to send off your entry well before the closing date of January 30, 1982. Calculations for the best performing trust run from February 1, 1982 to January 3, 1983.

Anyone feeling timid about entering can take comfort from the fact that even the experts get cold feet when their judgment is about to put on the line. We asked six experts to take part in the competition — all charge fees for advice on unit trusts. Two declined — Robin Boyle of Capel Cure Myers and John Savage of Hoare Govett. It must give their clients something to think about.

Lorna Bourke

Unit trust performance: your guide to the figures

We usually publish unit trust performance statistics on a sector basis — financial trusts, income trusts and so on. To help readers who are interested in the more specialised and unusual choices, we are printing the performance figures for the next two Saturdays. The different types of trust will not be segregated so that it will be easier to see which trust performed best overall during the past 12 and 24 months. The tables show the value on January 4, 1982 of £100 invested 12 months ago (column A) and two years ago (column B), net income reinvested and based on offer-to-offer prices. Figures supplied by *Planned Savings Magazine*.

A B

	Midland Drayton Cap	102.3 133.9
Brown Shipley Units	102.3 134.2	
HK Market Fund	102.1 139.1	
Arbutnott High Inc	101.8 112.2	
Mid Mount High Inc	101.8 117.7	
Britannia Domestic	101.7 126.9	
Nestor Fund	101.6 125.9	
St. James' Priory Fund	101.6 125.9	
Widow Fund	101.6 125.9	
Target/Extr Income	111.6 147.8	
Ridgefield Income	111.6 151.9	
Mayflower Income	111.6 124.9	
Craigmount High Inc	111.5 127.6	
Longwall Spec Snts	111.5 119.7	
Carib High Yield	111.5 127.6	
Brown Shipley Grid	118.6 167.9	
S&P High Yield	118.6 167.9	
Klein Benz Units	111.4 142.4	
Wieler Growth	111.6 114.6	
Tarje/Bixtry Income	111.6 147.8	
HG Technology	111.3 151.9	
A-Hambo Small Cos	111.2 136.5	
GTM International	111.2 147.2	
Brown Shipley Index	111.1 146.5	
Garrison Fund	111.1 146.5	
Prudential Daycon	111.0 146.0	
Hill Samuel/Int	111.0 146.3	
Fidelity Growth & Inc	111.0 144.2	
Bishopgate Prog	117.7 144.2	
Arbuthnott Ginst	117.7 125.3	
Quilts/Quad Recvry	118.1	
Reliance Opportunity	118.1	
London Wall/Hgt Inc	118.1	
Friendship Companys	118.1	
Carib High Yield	118.1	
Brown Shipley Grid	118.6 167.9	
S&P High Yield	118.6 167.9	
Klein Benz Fund	118.6 167.9	
Wieler Growth	111.3 151.9	
Tarje/Bixtry Income	111.3 151.9	
HG Technology	111.3 151.9	
A-Hambo Capital	110.7 152.4	
World Wide	110.7 152.4	
RTI Overseas	110.7 152.4	
M&G Recovery	110.7 152.4	
A-Hambo 2nd Cos	110.7 152.4	
Hill Samuel	110.6 152.4	
M&G Dividend	110.6 152.4	
Hill Samuel/Int	110.6 152.4	
Friendship Companys	110.6 152.4	
Carib High Yield	110.6 152.4	
Brown Shipley Grid	110.6 152.4	
Reliance Opportunity	110.6 152.4	
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Brown Shipley Grid	110.6 152.4	
Reliance Opportunity	110.6 152.4	
Friendship Companys	110.6 152.4	
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Brown Shipley Grid	110.6 152.4	
Reliance Opportunity	110.6 152.4	
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Brown Shipley Grid	110.6 152.4	
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Friendship Companys	110.6 152.4	
Carib High Yield	110.6 152.4	
Brown Shipley Grid	1	

EDITED BY LORNA BOURKE

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

In brief

New offer from Leeds

High Return Access Shares from the Leeds Permanent Building Society offer a return of 11.75 per cent net of basic rate tax for investments of £500 or more. Money can be withdrawn on three months' notice, but there is a penalty. No interest will be paid on the amount withdrawn during the notice period. If you are likely to make withdrawals this might not be such an attractive deal.

Flexi

Flexishares from the Peterborough Building Society are paying 11 per cent net of basic rate tax, and offer monthly interest payments with money available at 28 days notice.

The differential over the Society's investment share rate of 9.75 per cent is guaranteed at 1.25 per cent for deposits over £2,000, or 1.0 per cent for deposits between £500 and £2,000. Money can be withdrawn without notice but there will be a penalty of 28 days loss of interest on the amount withdrawn. If notice is given there is no penalty.

Bond

Hill Samuel's five year guaranteed income bond offers a return of up to 13.1 per cent, net of basic rate tax and the choice of monthly, half-yearly or annual income payments. This is equivalent to a before tax return of 18.6 per cent to basic rate taxpayers.

Friends

Competition in the self-employed pensions market has led to many improvements in schemes. It is only relatively recently that insurers started to pay interest on premiums returned on the death of the pension plan holder. Now Friends Provident is following the latest trend and returning the whole of the accumulated fund on the death of the policyholder.

North

Northern Rock Building Society is doing away with differential mortgage rates for all new loans up to £37,500 and will be charging a flat 15 per cent. Existing borrowers will have their repayments adjusted where necessary from April 1, 1982.

Income

A five year income bond from Crown Life pays 12.0 per cent, a year net of basic rate tax, equivalent to a return of 17.1 per cent before tax. Minimum investment is £1,000 and capital is returned in full at the end of the five year term.

Base Lending Rates

	ABN Bank	Barclays	BCCI	Consolidated Crds.	C. Hoare & Co	Lloyds Bank	Midland Bank	Nat Westminster	TSB	Williams & Glyn's
*	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%	14 1/2%
7-day deposit on sums of up to £50,000 15 1/4% over £50,000 15 1/4% over										

* 7-day deposit on sums of up to £50,000 15 1/4% over £50,000 15 1/4% over



Bonus protection plan will suit star drivers

For experienced motorists the New Year brings a special offer from Eagle Star. Its new no-claims bonus protection scheme allows the motorist to make up to two claims in any three consecutive years without affecting the no-claim discount.

The scheme is confined to drivers over 30 already holding a maximum no-claim discount. The policy will cost 10 per cent more than conventional insurance with the same coverage, but this falls to 5 per cent at the first renewal with no further surcharges if the policy is continued after the second year.

Eagle Star quotes an example of a middle-aged driver living in Ashtead, Surrey, driving a Mini Metro 1.3L who pays £96 in premiums with full no-claim bonus for fully comprehensive cover with no excess on the policy. If he wants the "no-claim bonus protection" he will pay an extra £9.60 in the first year and £4.80 in the new year.

A motorist with a Cortina 1.600 living in Basingstoke would pay £129.60 with full no-claim bonus for similar cover and £12.96 for the bonus protection.

The scheme is matched by similar no-claim discount protection schemes operated by General Accident, Sun Alliance and others, and the Automobile Association reports mounting interest in the idea.

But signs are that the

motorist cannot expect much more in the way of concessions. Although most insurance companies have been delaying premium rises this year, this is unlikely to continue far into 1982.

Eagle Star has held its rates steady since May missing out its schedule premium review later in the year but hints that a price rise in April is likely. The Prudential also says that it will have reconsidered prices "early in the new year".

For the driver needed a policy immediately the market has never been as good. Several companies have recently announced price freezes and policy buyers should find that these bargains have a shelf life lasting well into the new year.

Over the year insurance companies have reviewed their ratings for several parts of the country as well as premiums for many smaller family saloons and there have been worthwhile reductions in premium rates. These are not universally applied and vary substantially from company to company.

It is worth a little spade work to find out if any insurer is offering your particular combination of car and area any premium concessions.

Most insurers have downgraded small modern hatchbacks such as the Metro and Fiesta as well as some medium sized family saloons such as the Cavalier. There is less consistency on area

ratings. General Accident, for example, has reduced premiums in Cheshire, Derbyshire, Hull, Merseyside (not Liverpool), Oxford and Renfrewshire (excluding Glasgow). Phoenix includes Durham in its reductions but also includes Cambridge, Wiltshire and Dundee.

How much can this save the motorist? Take a man aged 30, driving an Escort 1.1 in rural Derby — both the car and area were down graded in insurance ratings by General Accident. If he had an open driver policy with full no claim discount he would have been paying a premium of £102 before May 31, 1981. But after both reductions this would fall 20 per cent to £80.

Compare this with the daunting premiums faced by drivers who have just passed their test. Guardian Royal Exchange quotes a premium of £275 for third party, fire and theft cover for an 18 year old student, driving a standard mini outside the Birmingham map area.

Motor insurance is an area

where it pays to consult an insurance broker as the number of policies available is enormous and the terms and conditions change substantially each year.

Patrick Donovan

British Insurance Brokers Association, Fountain House, 130 Fenchurch Street, EC3M 5DJ. Tel: 01-623 9043. Quotef. Insurance, 83 Clerkenwell Road, EC1. Tel: 01-242 0747.

Winners in Far East

Funds investing in Japan and the Far East proved to be the eventual winners in the 1981 unit trust league table. Only Arbutinot Smaller Companies in 5th place prevented them from making a clear sweep of the top ten. The Arbutinot portfolio is predominantly in the United Kingdom, but there is also a substantial stake in the United States.

In a distinct change of fortune on 1980, when all funds investing in European markets ended well down the performance table, both Henderson European and stockbrokers G. Grevson Grant's London & Brussels fund finish 1981 in the top two dozen. Both trusts have apparently gained from the strong showing of the Scandinavian exchanges, where they have sizable investments.

Turning to home, the best result from a United Kingdom portfolio was achieved by Warburg Investment Management's Mercury Fund in 12th position, three places ahead of National Westminster Smaller

Eight funds concentrating

on America achieve a place in the first fifty, several of them specializing in smaller United States companies and recovery stocks. M & G American Recovery leads the contingent from across the Atlantic in 14th place with a clear margin over its closest rivals, Framlington American and Henderson North American.

Companies, one category of funds, nearly all United Kingdom, which have also ended 1981 well are the equity income trusts. Twenty such funds appear amongst the top hundred headed by Perpetual Income, ranked at 16th. TSB Income is listed eleven places behind, just one step ahead of Henderson Income & Growth.

Basically funds concentrating on commodity and energy shares dominate the laggards for the year. The restored fortunes of all these trusts depends on how quickly the main world economies can climb out of recession. Much the same can be said about those trusts investing in natural resource stocks "down under". These funds have suffered a dramatic change of standing over the last year.

The three Australian trusts, managed by Barclays Unicorn, Henderson and M & G respectively, which finished 1980 in the top ten, now languish in the last twenty. The Dow-Jones Industrial

Stock markets

Thorn down on rights issue fear

Fears that a rights issue might accompany next week's half-time results from Thorn EMI the electrical giant, sent the shares tumbling 16p to 445p yesterday. Several leading brokers, including Springcourt Kemp Cee and Scott Gough Hancock, are rumoured to have already downgraded earlier pre-tax profit estimates of £50m to around the £40m to £42m mark with £10m estimated for the full year.

Thorn is thought to want the cash for a bid for Ferranti when the remaining restrictions on the shares applied by the National Enterprise Board are lifted in June. Shares of Ferranti were steady at 625p last night.

The firm trend in the US bond market, and easier conditions in the money markets, combined to support gilts. Rises of up to 5% were seen in longs, in thin trade, while in shorts the gains were limited to between 1% and 15%.

Stock shortages also saw good gains among blue chips. ICI rose 4p to 304p, Beecham 5p to 220, Glaxo 12p to 334p and John Brown 4p to 55p.

Hopes of a bid kept interest rates in Scottish & Newcastle, up 1%p at 54%p, but the absence of a dawn raid saw profit taking in Unigate, down 2p to 113p.

Cyrioptek businessman Mr Asil Nadir was over £4m richer last night after instructing brokers Messel to sell 1.3m of his total holding of 4.2m in Polly Peck to £44m. However, the shares were dull last night, along

with the rest of the electrical sector, down 2p to 428p.

The latest bidders insured a quiet end to the account, although the thin conditions helped the FT Index to close 1.9 up at 531.4, a rise on the account of 12.6%.

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Loss at Ley's is restated

Oversatement of stock values at a main subsidiary has led to a restatement of first-half losses at Derby-based Ley's Foundries and Engineering. The company has disclosed full-year losses of £2.42m, for the year to September, but says losses in the second half were only £600,000.

The loss in the first half was originally stated at £1.61m, but discovery of inflated stock-values over a period of years at the Bescoson Boiler subsidiary swelled this by £500,000 to an apportioned £350,000 to over £1.96m. The total estimated oversatement of £800,000 was discovered last November.

It is understood the £450,000 balance of the oversatement has been written off to reserves.

Despite a loss per share of 24.45p, the company will pay a dividend of 0.7p (gross), though this is well down on last year's dividend of 2.85p (gross).

Rosehaugh again rejected

By Gareth David

London Shop Property Trust has rejected the improved offer Rosehaugh, the former tea plantation group headed by Mr Godfrey Bradman with a 21.4 per cent stake, which places a value of about 150p on London Shop ordinary shares.

The group, which has no listing on any stock exchange and has no plans to do so, hopes to start transmissions via the Orbital Test Satellite starting in the spring. SATV is expected to be one of the first organizations to achieve this, which gives it access to

Satellite TV financing begins

Ladbrooke Group, Ferranti, F & C Management, D. C. Thomson and Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation and three insurance companies.

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LRC buys photographic processor for £3m

By Margaret Pagano

LRC International, the rubber and pharmaceuticals group, is paying £3m for Napcolour, one of the main photographic processors in the South of England and Napcolour's freeprint operations will increase UPPL's at present small involvement on the Continent.

The last results for Napcolour and its subsidiaries for the two years ended December 31, 1980, showed profits before tax of £1.5m and £1.31m respectively. But profits this year are expected to show an improvement.

LRC recently reported a 12 per cent improvement in pretax profits to £3.8m for the year to September last, despite sales up 4 per cent higher at £55.6m.

Commodities

ALUMINIUM — Cash £377.70 per tonne. Three month 100% 110.50. Sales: 110.50-111.20. Settlement: 111.20-111.50.

MICRONESIA was quoted — Afternoon 12.750. Sales: 12.750-12.750. Settlement: 12.750-12.750.

NIKEL was quoted — Afternoon 12.750. Sales: 12.750-12.750. Settlement: 12.750-12.750.

NON-METALS — Afternoon 12.750. Sales: 12.750-12.750. Settlement: 12.750-12.750.

POLYTHENE — Afternoon 12.750. Sales: 12.750-12.750. Settlement: 12.750-12.750.

SILVER — Afternoon 12.750. Sales: 12.750-12.750. Settlement: 12.750-12.750.

SUGAR — The London daily price of white sugar was unchanged at 11.00c per pound. Sales: 11.00c-11.00c. Settlement: 11.00c-11.00c.

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Hull City 100 W

Leeds 100 W

Nottingham 100 W

Derby 100 W

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BUT GOD, who is rich in mercy, so far as we are concerned with Christ, is grace itself. He has given us grace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Ephesians 2:4-5 (N.R.V.)

BIRTHS

APPROVED—On 2nd January, 1982, to Carolyn and John—daughters of Mr and Mrs Michael and Carolyn Williams, 105 Newgate Street, at St. Botolph's Church, London EC3.

NEWBOLD—On 1st January, 1982, in Newbold, Warwickshire, to Mr and Mrs Alan Newbold, 100 Newbold Road, Newbold, Warwickshire, son Edward.

REDMAYNE—On 5th January, to Mr and Mrs Michael Redmayne, son Edward.

ROBERTSON—On December 26th, to Mr and Mrs James William Robertson, 268, Westgate, Canterbury, Kent, son Edward.

ROBERTSON—On December 26th, to Peter and Sophie, daughter of Elizabeth Heaton, a sister for Xmas.

BIRTHDAYS

RELATIVELY within the amazingly beautiful Letts, a very happy birthday and much joy for the last 12 months.

HEY SIMON—Chateau Lusaka, Zambia, ready for drinking now.

MARRIAGES

MASTER'S MILLER—The marriage took place in London on December 23rd, 1981, between Masters and Alison Miller.

RUBY WEDDING

WOLFE—On January 1st, 1982, at St. Paul's Church, Deptford, Kent, Neal, David to Dulcie.

WOODHORN WAY—Whitstable, Kent, to Mr and Mrs Alan Woodhorn Way, Whitstable.

DEATHS

ALLAN—At Lymington, Hampshire, on January 1st, 1982, at the age of 82 years, Alan, very dearly loved husband of Susan, Margaret and Jane.

ALICE—At Lymington, Hampshire, on Tuesday, 12th January 1982, Alice, aged 82, beloved wife of St. John, late of Lymington.

BEDDINGTON—On January 7th, 1982, at his home in Lymington, Hampshire, short illness, Elizabeth Rose, of 82, beloved wife of the late Major General Sir George Beddington, late Wimborne, Dorset.

HAWKINS—On January 7th, 1982, at his home in Lymington, Hampshire, John McNab Hawkins. Funeral service at St. John's Church, Lymington, on Friday, 10th January, at 1.30 p.m.

HAWKINS—On January 7th, 1982, suddenly while on holiday in Rhodesia, Francis Laurence Gerard, beloved husband of Shirley and Sherry, late of Lymington, Hampshire.

HAWTON—On January 7th, 1982, Sir John Hawton, K.C.B., late of Lymington, Hampshire, beloved husband of Winifred, late of Lymington, on Thursday, 14th January, at 82.

HAWTHORPE—On January 5th, 1982, at his home in Lymington, Hampshire, Dr. Anthony W. P. Hawthorpe, beloved husband of Marion. No flowers by arrangement, but donations may be sent to The Royal Caledonian Society, 10 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1, or to the late Major General Sir David and Lady Hawthorpe at Wimborne, Dorset.

HAWTHORPE—On January 5th, 1982, peacefully at Aspasia Park, Littlehampton, 639, beloved husband of John McNab Hawthorpe.

HAWTHORPE—On January 5th, 1982, peacefully at her house, Haywards Heath, Brighton, Dr. Anthony W. P. Hawthorpe, beloved husband of Marion. No flowers by arrangement, but donations may be sent to The Royal Caledonian Society, 10 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1, or to the late Major General Sir David and Lady Hawthorpe at Wimborne, Dorset.

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